FBIS DAILY REPORT

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FOREIGN MINISTERS SPEAK AT OAS MEETING

Argentine Minister

PY180235 Buenos Aires Domestic Service in Spanish 2000 GMT 17 Nov 82

[By (Ivan Silva Acuna)]

[Text] Speaking at the OAS meeting being held in Washington, Argentine Foreign Minister Juan Aguirre Lanari made a thorough evaluation of the consequences of the Malvinas conflict which, he said, is not a problem affecting just an isolated country but the whole inter-American system.

[Begin Aguirre Lanari recording] The serious events that occurred in the South Atlantic, where the United Kingdom has once again imposed its colonial domination on American soil, have revealed that the interest of some countries in preserving their prestige and the advantages obtained during their imperial expansion period destroyed every possibility of reaching a negotiated settlement which could have prevented the painful results of the armed conflict. Today we are determined to honor those who suffered and died on those islands. Peace should be the justification for their patriotic sacrifice, a sacrifice which has not been in vain, because it raised the international community's concern over the Malvinas issue, to which the United Kingdom has never attached political significance. This sacrifice has also strengthened Latin America and the Latin American identity of the Argentine Republic. Argentina's gratitude will endure in the affection for and in the solidarity with American causes. It was not just Argentina's interests which were hurt but also those of all American countries which, under some specific historical circumstances, might be compelled to invoke collective security measures. Therefore, more than ever before, we should not find the mechanisms which, in an emergency, could allow us to attain the results in keeping with the priorities mentioned in Article 1 of the OAS charter. It follows that there is a pressing need for strengthening the nonintervention principle, which is today linked to the sources of tension existing in Central America. Those sources are particularly harmful for the stability of the countries involved and for the very foundations of inter-American coexistence as well. [end recording]

Foreign Minister Aguirre Lanari also dedicated a substantial portion of his speech to the serious world economic situation, which is particularly affecting developing countries.

[Begin Aguirre Lanari recording] These gloomy prospects, marked by stagnant economic growth and world trade, massive unemployment and soaring inflation, increasing protectionism in developed countries, deterioration of the balance of trade and uncontrollable growth of foreign indebtedness, among other outstanding features, have hindered our countries' chances for attaining development and for making a significant contribution to the settlement of the most serious and burning international problems. In addition, many developed countries have shown a persistent unwillingness to hold a dialogue, have frequently failed to meet their obligations and have revealed a new and clear tendency to exert political pressure through embargos, sanctions and other forms of economic coercion, which at times have even harmed those who have enforced them. Disregard for the principles and regulations ruling the orderly economic relations among nations, or the tendency to ignore previously agreed upon rules of the game -- one of the most negative characteristics of this time -- are even worse that the deterioration of the world and regional economic situation.

Under such circumstances, it will be hard to have an optimistic view of our future possibilities unless we make a great effort, resorting to the necessary will and imagination, in order to prevent the continuation of a recessive process of ill-fated consequences for developing countries. [end recording]

Chilean Minister

PY180217 Santiago Domestic Service in Spanish 2200 GMT 17 Nov 82

[Text] Foreign Minister Rene Rojas Galdames said during the OAS plenary session that Chile believes it is essential to maintain the inter-American system. Regarding the situation the OAS is confronting, the foreign minister said in Washington that the OAS is an irreplaceable organization for dialogue and cooperation of the countries of the hemisphere.

Rojas Galdames said: We have head voices criticizing the OAS, labeling it as incapable of fulfilling the current requirements of the American community.

He added that there are countries that are even proposing the reorganization of the OAS without the United States or replacing or reforming the organization. He went on to say that Chile believes that an effective and solid inter-American system without the United States is unthinkable. He emphasized, however, that the United States must give greater priority to Latin America in its foreign policy.

He also said that the power vacuum and weaknesses of the governments are the ones which affect the progress of the OAS. The foreign minister emphasized that it was necessary to strengthen and perfect some instruments, particularly those related to peace. He added that peace was the most important and urgent moral value that had to be consolidated by the countries of the hemisphere. He said that peace is the basis of our common action and cooperation.

Regarding disarmament, he said that an unprecedented increase in expenditures for the purchase of weapons had been observed. Foreign Minister Rojas Galdames also referred to the peaceful solution of controversies. He indicated that it was obvious that the situation was not satisfactory and that there were significant cracks in the system. Therefore, it was necessary to review the mechanisms for peaceful resolution of controversies now in force in the region in order to make them more effective and to agree on practical formulas for compulsory action in order to definitely eradicate the risks of war.

Regarding the critical situation of the economy, the foreign minister said that economic cooperation is the most effective way to respond to the current demands of society.

He added: My government believes that this is the occasion for a definite and urgent political commitment, that is, calling for the special general assembly for cooperation and development.

In conclusion the foreign minister said that Chile believes that the time has come for a new inter-American agreement aimed at three basic objectives: collective hemispheric security, peaceful solution of controversies and cooperation for development. He said that in order to achieve these objectives it will be necessary for the governments to put all their efforts into strengthening a policy of regional disarmament, reaching a political commitment for peace and holding the special general assembly for development. The real challenge is to move on along the path of regional solidarity and Chile is ready to cooperate and to seriously face this noble challenge.

UCR LEADER REITERATES REJECTION OF AGREEMENT

PY172130 Buenos Aires NOTICIAS ARGENTINAS in Spanish 1310 GMT 17 Nov 82

[Text] Buenos Aires, 17 Nov (NA) -- Carlos Contin, head of the Radical Civic Union (UCR), did not dismiss the possibility that the Multiparty Group may hold talks with the government but he reiterated that this organization "will not agree with the current authorities.

Contin stated that "we have told the government that we are not going to reach an agreement with it but this does not mean that we are not going to hold talks."

In statements to Radio Mitre this morning, the politician explained the Multiparty Group's reasons for rejecting the official proposal to reach an agreement on 15 specific issues.

Regarding the Multiparty Group's decision to reject the national agreement, Contin stated that "all the member parties of the group had adopted a firm attitude" and that "there had been no disagreements" in this regard. He added that "the country's attention was focused on us" therefore we could not cause a loss of hope or confusion.

Contin stated that "the Argentine situation is extremely difficult" and "we want to return to the Constitution."

He added that "everything is in a state of collapse" and "a feeling of hope, firmness and a clear line of thought" are necessary. He pointed out "that there have been no changes" and "that it is the same clear line of thought we proposed a year ago."

Contin then said that "we have told the government that we are not going to agree, but this does not mean that we are not going to hold talks."

Regarding the enrollment of party members he pointed out that "it is being carried out without any problems" and that "only in the capital is the enrollment of UCR members a little slow."

CHURCH DENIES REMARKS ATTRIBUTED TO CARDINAL

PY172150 Buenos Aires Domestic Service in Spanish 2000 GMT 17 Nov 82

[Text] The Buenos Aires archbishopric has released a communique on a statement allegedly made by Cardinal Juan Carlos Aramburu and published in Rome.

The communique states that Monsignor Aramburu held a short phone conversation with a journalist who asked him for an interview. The interview was not granted.

The communique then explains that the conversation was published by a Roman newspaper as an interview, including questions and answers, which were not made during the phone conversation.

On a previous date, the communique goes on, reporters who were waiting for Cardinal Aramburu at Rome's airport asked him about the missing persons in Argentina and about the alleged discovery of clandestine common graves. Cardinal Aramburu, according to the communique, after recalling the statements the archbishopric made on the issue, referred to what the appropriate officials said on the matter through the Buenos Aires mass media.

The communique explains that Cardinal Aramburu did not want and could under no circumstances prejudge either the investigations under way of the possible clarification of the charges made concerning the issue.

In conclusion, the communique warns that any other interpretation of what Cardinal Aramburu has said will be the responsibility of those who make such interpretation.

BISHOPS ISSUE DOCUMENT ON RECONCILIATION

PY180158 Buenos Aires NOTICIAS ARGENTINAS in Spanish 2020 GMT 15 Nov 82

[Text] Buenos Aires, 15 Nov (NA) -- The church today made it clear that its commitment "to serve reconciliation" will be aimed at seeking "a true convergence" and denied that its action will be designed to either "calm down emotions or feelings or to seek a superficial, temporary agreement."

The above clarifications are contained in a communique entitled "At the Service of Reconciliation" released today by the church.

The release of the communique opened a press conference held by Bishops Justo Laguna, Domingo Castagna and Rodolfo Bufano, members of the social-pastoral team of the episcopate.

The communique, which consists of five points, begins by citing the episcopal document "Road to Reconciliation." The document then quotes Pope John Paul II by noting that reconciliation should not be promoted with "political instruments but with the gospels' humble, persuasive words."

Point 2 of the document states that the episcopal documents will set up "the appropriate reference framework for the negotiations this team may have to conduct."

Point 3 states that "this team will devote its efforts to seeking a true convergence. It will not seek either to calm down emotions or feelings, or a superficial, temporary agreement."

The document adds: "As bishops we do not have and could not have a political plan. This is not our mission. Nor is it our mission to confuse our task with that of the armed forces government or that of political groups."

Outlining the ways to implement reconciliation, the communique states that "those representatives of, and those responsible for our sociopolitical institutional life who may request it" will be received and heeded.

The bishops stated that they will offer "their loyal, unbiased cooperation to promote a sincere public dialogue on major national issues."

"Thus we intend to restore hope and to strengthen the process of democratic institutionalization of the Argentine society," the communique states.

In its last point, the communique appeals to "the understanding and active commitment of everyone, particularly of all Christians, whom we ask to remain confident and to continue praying."

GENERAL LINKS RIGHTS GROUPS TO SUBVERSION

PY172104 Buenos Aires BUENOS AIRES HERALD in English 17 Nov 82 p 11

[Text] (DYN-NA) -- The army's chief of staff, General Edgardo Calvi, yesterday accused human rights groups of financing "statements and trips by the mothers of terrorists," in apparent reference to the mothers of the Plaza de Mayo.

Speaking at a ceremony commemorating the 171st anniversary of the army's General Staff, Major General Calvi charged that subversion was "attempting to penetrate the country's political establishments to sap the power of the state, trying to reach that power through chaos and terror."

ELECTION: PMDB LEADING IN 6 STATES, PDS IN 15

PY180002 Porto Alegre Radio Guaiba in Portuguese 2150 GMT 17 Nov 82

[Text] The vote count now totals 6,941,000 ballots throughout the country. The Brazilian Democratic Mobilization Party [PMDB] leads in the following states: Minas Gerais, Espirito Santo, Parana, Goias, Sao Paulo and Para.

The Social Democratic Party [PDS] leads in the following states: Rio Grande do Sul, Ceara, Piaui, Bahia, Mato Grosso do Sul, Pernambuco, Santa Catarina, Paraiba, Alagoas, Sergipe, Rio Grande do Norte, Mato Grosso and Maranhao. The PDS also leads the PMDB in Amazonas State but the difference there is only 163 votes.

In Rio de Janeiro State, Democratic Labor Party candidate Leonel Brizola leads the vote count with 188,955 votes, which means a 20,579 lead over PDS candidate Moreira Franco.

PDS Concedes in Parana, Sao Paulo

PY180013 Brasilia Domestic Service in Portuguese 2200 GMT 17 Nov 82

[Text] The Presidential Press and Broadcasting Secretariat today released a telegram sent by Senator Jose Sarney, president of the Social Democratic Party [PDS], to Deputy Ulysses Guimaraes, president of the Brazilian Democratic Mobilization Party [PMDB], offering congratulations for the victory of the PMDB gubernatorial candidates in Parana and Sao Paulo States, Jose Richa and Franco Montoro, respectively.

PMDB Admits Defeat in Rio State

PY180331 Sao Paulo Radio Bandeirantes Network in Portuguese 0230 GMT 18 Nov 82

[Text] Miro Teixeira, the candidate of the Brazilian Democratic Mobilization Party for governor of Rio de Janeiro State, early tonight admitted his defeat at the hands of Democratic Labor Party [PDT] candidate Leonel Brizola.

Teixeira noted that since a month ago he has been noticing difficulties in several areas. He did not view Brizola's victory as surprising since opinion polls already indicated that this might happen.

Moreira Franco, the Social Democratic Party's candidate for governor of Rio de Janeiro, today also commented on the results of the vote count of a little more than 1,500 ballot boxes. Most of these ballot boxes are from the interior of the state, where Moreira Franco should have a majority. Concerning admission of his defeat, Moreira Franco did not share Miro Teixeira's opinion that Brizola has already won.

As Brizola leads Moreira Franco by 30,000 votes, the closest disputes are now those of the States of Minas Gerais, Parana and Pernambuco.

PMDB Minas Gerais Win 'Certain'

PY180340 Sao Paulo Radio Bandeirantes Network in Portuguese 0230 GMT 18 Nov 82

[By political commentator Jose Augusto Ribeiro]

[Excerpt] We have a report on Minas Gerais State. According to Deputy-elect Jose Aparecido de Oliveira, one of the best informed politicians in Minas Gerais State, the election of Senator Tancredo Neves as governor and the reelection of Itamar Franco as senator can already be regarded as certain.

Planalto Spokesman

PY180310 Sao Paulo Radio Bandeirantes Network in Portuguese 0230 GMT 18 Nov 82

[Text] Planalto Palace today announced that President Figueiredo will make no official remarks on the election before national final results of the election are made known.

Government spokesman Carlos Atila noted, however, that the government already admits its irreversible defeat in the States of Sao Paulo, Parana, Goias and Espirito Santo.

Atila says the Social Democratic Party's [PDS] victory is guaranteed in the states of Rio Grande do Sul, Sergipe, Bahia, Ceara, Paraiba and Maranhao. Planalto Palace has doubts, however, concerning the States of Minas Gerais and Pernambuco, where the vote count is very close.

Planalto Palace still hopes that PDS candidate Moreira Franco will win in Rio de Janeiro State. Atila said the results released late this afternoon by the BRAZILIAN NEWS AGENCY showed an improvement in the position of the Democratic Labor Party candidate's position, but this is still not irreversible.

Atila said presidential advisers have information that the above results pertain to opposition strongholds which could be compensated for in the interior of Rio de Janeiro and the same could happen in Pernambuco.

Rio Grande do Sul Race

PY172336 Porto Alegre Radio Guaiba in Portuguese 2150 GMT 17 Nov 82

[Text] Rainha do Mar -- Senator Pedro Simon today said he lost the Rio Grande do Sul gubernatorial race primarily because of the division existing within the opposition. The PMDB [Brazilian Democratic Mobilization Party] candidate also attributed his defeat to terrorist attacks against the party and the use of the government apparatus by his opponent.

Simon admitted the failure of his campaign and noted that Leonel Brizola's position was always marked by offenses against the PMDB and tactful actions toward the government.

Simon made it clear tat the PMDB will not collapse and noted that when [Social Democratic Party candidate] Jair Soares concludes his term the group that has been running the state will have been in power for 24 years.

Speaking in Porto Alegre, Alceu Collares, the PDT candidate for governor stated that the trend of the vote count is already irreversible and admitted that Jair Soares is already the governor-elect of Rio Grande do Sul. Collares appealed to Soares' love for Rio Grande do Sul State to lead a good government and to meet the people's basic needs. Collares will soon leave for Brasilia.

M-19, SOCIALIST PARTY OBJECT TO REAGAN'S VISIT

PA172004 Paris AFP in Spanish 1903 GMT 17 Nov 82

[Excerpt] Bogota, 17 Nov (AFP) -- The 19 April Movement (M-19) and the Socialist Revolutionary Party (PSR) have objected in Bogota to Reagan's visit. They have accused him of trying to undermine Colombia's entry into the Nonaligned Movement.

The PSR also stressed that Reagan is trying to "mend" the relations between the United States and the Latin American countries.

GOVERNMENT OFFICIALS ON AMNESTY LAW'S APPROVED

PA172143 Bogota Emisoras CARACOL Network in Spanish 1215 GMT 17 Nov 82

[Excerpts] Bogota -- Moments after the Chamber of Representatives definitely approved the amnesty law, Government Minister Rodrigo Escobar Naiva said that rebels must now give an honest answer to the opportunity they are being offered to return to legal activities.

On his part, Justice Minister Bernardo Gaytan Mahecha said that we must fulfill the wishes of the millions of Conservative and Liberal Colombians who voted for peace on May 30.

National Defense Minister Gen Fernando Landazabal Reyes remained silent and only expressed his opinion when the article giving the president extraordinary powers to restructure the national police was being voted on separately. He said that this was one of the most important points for achieving the desire for peace contained in the law.

Liberal and Conservative parliamentarians that spoke during the last minutes of the session for the approval of the amnesty law agreed in emphasizing that the peace proposal was good in spirit, but they had some objections as to the letter of some of the articles, especially those related to extraordinary powers to restructure the national police and make budget transfers to support social plans and economic measures for guerrillas accepting the amnesty.

It is estimated that at least 3,000 guerrillas will be protected under the law and that 346 detainees or individuals sentenced for subversive acts will be released from jails in the country upon the completion of procedures at the superior courts of the respective judicial districts where their cases are being heard. It will take until the end of December to implement the law with regard to the detainees.

M-19 To Abide by Law

PA180125 Paris AFP in Spanish 2239 GMT 17 Nov 82

[Text] Bogota, 17 Nov (AFP) -- The 19 April Movement (M-19) today opened a truce [abrio hoy una tregua] in its subversive activities by reiterating its decision to abide by the amnesty law approved last night by the Colombian Parliament. The law is expected to benefit some 6,000 rebels.

Today the M-19 sent a recorded message to the privately owned radio enterprise Circuito Todelar explaining its decision and noting that the amnesty law that President Belisario Betancur will sign on Friday will not immediately bring about peace in the country. According to the recording, complete peace is not possible in Colombia because "the situations that led the popular classes to armed struggle still prevail."

The M-19 also explained that in a few days it will present a basic 25-point plan where

"Not only are we willing to lay down our weapons, but we will surrender them as well," the M-19 claimed. That, however, would depend on the success of a national dialogue with the various political and social sectors.

The M-19 also noted that although a basic action plan already exists, it is willing to accept whatever program results from the talks held at a national level.

The M-19 reiterated that internal military action [accion militar interna] will not cease in order to show that it is an active organization that can use its weapons to press for true social change in the country.

It added that the amnesty should benefit not only the political prisoners, but should also offer guarantees for the activities of unions, politicians, students and [word indistinct].

Finally, the M-19 stressed that it will now seek a broad nationwide dialogue in order to strengthen a definitive peace for all sectors.

Others To Continue Fight

PA180155 Madrid EFE in Spanish 0101 GMT 18 Nov 82

[Excerpt] Bogota, 17 Nov (EFE) -- The National Liberation Army and the Workers Self-Defense Movement both published communiques today in Bogota in which they stress that "despite the approval of the amnesty law, the struggle continues."

One of the greatest problems that the authorities will face in the application of the amnesty is that it provides for prison sentences of 2 to 5 years for those who carry or hide any type of weapons. None of the guerrilla groups has agreed to turn over their weapons, alleging that they are hiding them in the mountains "in case they have to use them again to fight for the needy."

The new law grants general amnesty to all perpetrators, accomplices or abettors of political crimes such as rebellion and sedition, including homicides that occurred in combat.

In order for this amnesty to bring peace to Colombia, the government is studying a plan of immediate action to carry out rehabilitation programs and grant lands, rural housing, credit, education, health care and jobs to those who take up a peaceful life under the protection of the institutions.

Army, M-19 Clash

PA171722 Bogota Emisoras CARACOL Network in Spanish 1215 GMT 17 Nov 82

[Text] Leiva -- Troops of the 9th Brigade based in this city left this morning to reinforce soldiers of the Tarqui and Juanambu battalions which engaged in a bloody battle with a large column of the outlawed 19 April Movement, M-19, in Valparaiso, Caqueta, yesterday.

According to reports from Leiva, one army lieutenant died during the clashes and at least 15 guerrillas were killed. The fighting took place when approximately 60 men belonging to this subversive group tried to seize Valparaiso and were repelled by an army patrol under the command of Lt (Elfin Galvez Justos), who died from bullet wounds.

Reports note that there have been sporadic clashes in southern Caqueta between regular troops and extremists.

MINISTER REJECTS BUSINESSMEN'S CALL FOR 'COUP'

PA171846 Quito Voz de los Andes in Spanish 1230 GMT 17 Nov 82

[Text] The government has strongly rejected calls for a coup d'etat made by the Federation of the Ecuadorean Chambers of Industrialists. The government charged that such attitudes imply a call for the overthrow of the regime and an attack on the democratic system.

Regarding this, Government Minister Galo Garcia has said: [Begin Garcia recording] This is the case of a political communique and thus calls for my intervention. It was an unsigned political communique. Consequently, it is a communique that, by hiding behind the term leadership council, tries to make demands on the Ecuadorean Government. In other words, the people behind it haven't enough fortitude, honesty and decisiveness to sign their full names to this communique which was announced to the country in terms that the Ecuadorean people and Government naturally reject. The communique itself implies a call to overturn the constitutional order or to stage a coup d'etat. It is another attempt to attack the Ecuadorean democratic, representative and popular system. It also reveals that it is a call to a coup d'etat as already mentioned by certain people who have made statements to the media and certain journalists.

As you also announced yesterday, this is authentic proof that what the government has been saying about ouster attempts was not just a figment of its imagination but something that has now become evident through a press communique. A week ago, Febres Cordero [member of the Social Christian Party and opposition leader in Congress] made a public statement calling for the president's removal. Therefore, this is merely a new way to present the same proposal. Yesterday's EL UNIVERSO commented on this communique in page five. It says that the interests which the authors of this anonymous communique represent request the withdrawal of President Hurtado, Vice President Roldos and of Baquerizo, the president of the Chamber of Representatives. This undoubtedly demonstrates the arbitrariness of those who, in an attempt to play the role of guardians of the Ecuadorean people, have anonymously made this request. [end recording]

Mr Minister, a reporter asked, does this mean that these coupist sectors have been holding talks with members of the armed forces? [Begin Garcia recording] I don't believe that this group is in contact with the armed forces because no group can claim dominion over the armed forces. I repeat what I said a few weeks ago: to call on the armed forces for a thing like this implies disrespect for the country's armed institution and for Ecuador's legal institutions. Therefore, nobody can claim to have this type of contact. We reject this possibility. We believe that the armed forces currently follow an institutional trend which is increasingly reaffirmed through legal and constitutional paths. [end recording]

This was a serious charge against the Federation of the Ecuadorean Chamber of Industrialists and the coupist efforts to destabilize the democratic system.

CTE READY TO SEND CONTINGENT TO NICARAGUA

PA172007 Paris AFP in Spanish 1533 GMT 16 Nov 82

[Text] Quito, 16 Nov (AFP) -- The Confederation of Ecuadorean Workers (CTE) has accused Ronald Reagan's government of encouraging the threats of an invasion of Nicaragua. This accusation was made by CTE President Edgar Ponce who said that "this plan is aimed at frustrating the Sandinist process that is underway" in this Central American country. Ponce said that, if necessary, the Ecuadorean laborers and workers are prepared to send a contingent to defend the Nicaraguan process.

NAVY COMMANDER APPEALS TO YOUTH TO ENTER POLITICS

PY162048 Montevideo Radio El Espectador Network in Spanish 1600 GMT 15 Nov 82

[Excerpts] Speaking at the central ceremony commemorating the anniversary of the navy at midday today, Navy Commander in Chief Vice Adm Rodolfo Invidio said that there is nothing to hide and that nobody should seek to judge the past on the basis of unhealthy obsessions or misleading influence. He also asked young people to participate in political life and to proudly defend their principles, calling upon those citizens who, despite possible differences of opinion, have been waiting for the restoration of free democratic play to follow the dynamic and enthusiastic example of young people.

[Begin Invidio recording -- in progress] Its only objective was to let them grow up in peace, sure of themselves, within a historical situation (?marked by) an extremely serious world economic crisis, which has lessened our achievements. But solutions cannot and will not come from political messiahs without specific plans and political platforms. The people's problems shall be solved by the people, who will skillfully (?choose) the genuine defenders of their ideals. You, who want your leaders to defend your ideals, demand uprightness, openly clear actions and, above all, a strong anti-demagogic attitude from them. Do not put all the obligations arising from this new stage in their hands. Participate, become involved, discuss, defend your principles and show that being a politician is something to be proud of when one struggles for the common good, for the defense of traditions, giving up personal ambitions. To all those Uruguayans who, despite possible differences of opinion, have been waiting for the restoration of free democratic play, I ask them to follow the dynamic and enthusiastic example of our young people. Do not let indifference, resentment or indignation drive you along the course of confusing doctrines which may threaten to change the course of the process all of us wish to follow. [end recording]

[Begin relay from navy parade ground] Prior to the ceremony, President Lt Gen, (ret) Gregorio Alvarez and Vice Adm Rodolfo Invidio officially dedicated a radar network located between La Paloma and Montevideo. The network will serve navigation surveillance and control purposes. This has been El Espectador reporting from the navy parade ground. [end relay]

LOCAL ELECTORAL COURT PURGES CANDIDATES

PY110013 Paris AFP in Spanish 1047 GMT 5 Nov 82

[Text] Montevideo, 5 Nov (AFP) -- In accordance with a decision handed down by the local electoral court, 600 citizens, including four politicians who were recently tried by the courts, have been excluded from the lists that will participate in the internal elections of the political parties on 28 November. It has been reported that the purge includes members of the armed and police forces who were on the active-duty list.

Electoral court spokesmen have indicated the 600 exclusions are the result of the verification of a total of 29,111 names and that the decision is based on express regulations that are contained in the political parties' statute which rules the activities of the parties.

The decision includes four leaders of the traditional National Party (conservative), who were tried some time ago by the military courts for libel as a consequence of several speeches that were made during public acts.

They are members of the For the Fatherland and National Movements of Rocha and their names are: Alberto Zumaran, Horacio Terra Gallinal, Carlos Labruna and Rodolfo Saldain.

The spokesmen asserted that the number of exclusions is low, taking into account the total number of candidates of the three party conventions among which 274 lists are distributed.

In addition to the National Party, the Colorado Party (liberal) and the small Civic Union Party will also participate in the elections.

Parties Protest

PA092254 Havana International Service in Spanish 0000 GMT 9 Nov 82

[Text] Representatives of the Uruguayan Broad Front in Panama have appealed for the 28 November party elections to become another plebiscite against the military dictatorship of that South American country. The Broad Front -- which is a great political power that some would like to exclude and eliminate, they emphasized -- will assert its unremovable presence in the Uruguayan political scene and will reaffirm its line by turning in blank votes.

Meanwhile, in Montevideo, political leaders of the traditional Blanco and Colorado parties voiced their concern over the fact that several of their candidates in the 28 November elections are being judged at military courts. Julio Sanguinetti of the Colorado Party said that it is not possible to remain silent or accommodating in the face of these repressive acts, and he demanded the release of the detainees. (Juan Fidel Devoto), Fernando Oliu, and (Gonzalo Aguirre). Leaders of the National or Blanco Party also protested these incidents to the Military Commission for Political Affairs.

PN Sector Suspends Public Acts

PY112125 Paris AFP in Spanish 2326 GMT 9 Nov 82

[Excerpts] Montevideo, 9 Nov (AFP) -- The most important sector of the traditional National Party (PN), (conservative), today decided to suspend all its public acts related to the forthcoming internal party elections because several of its leaders are being processed.

It was reported that the leadership of the Movements for the Fatherland and Rocha made this decision after a thorough study of the country's political situation. This group's leadership has also decided to concentrate its electoral campaign for the 28 November elections through the media. It was reported that this group will continue to hold meetings in clubs and party buildings and use radio and television programming.

Interior Minister Yamandu Trinidad labeled this decision as personal. He also said that the actions taken against the leaders of this group are normal measures in accordance with the evidence of each case. The minister said that the actions to be taken against the candidate for delegate of this sector in the Colonia Department, Eladio Fernandez, "are not going to be any more or any less severe than the measures adopted so far."

Fernandez was arrested and interrogated regarding the remarks he made during the inauguration of a local club.

General Trinidad indicated that the suspension of acts ordered by the leaders of these movements may be due to the lack of support they were expecting.

HERRERA CAMPINS PRAISES NEW BOLIVIAN GOVERNMENT

PA171925 Paris AFP in Spanish 0317 GMT 16 Nov 82

[Text] Caracas, 15 Nov (AFP) -- Venezuela has asked Bolivia for the usual "approval" for its new ambassador in La Paz, Jorge Rodriguez Diaz, President Luis Herrera told AFP in Caracas today.

Herrera said that "Venezuelans are sympathetic toward the Bolivian democratic process and President Hernan Siles Zuazo is my personal friend and a friend of several Venezuelan leaders." "The renascent Bolivian democracy has our best wishes as Venezuelans and as perpetuators of the work of the Liberator Simon Bolivar," Herrera concluded.

Venezuela froze its diplomatic relations with Bolivia during the 1980-82 period because of the existence of military dictatorships in that South American country.

ENERGY MINISTER DEFENDS OIL PRODUCTION POLICY

PA180206 Caracas Radio Continente Network in Spanish 2100 GMT 17 Nov 82

[Text] Energy and Mines Minister Humberto Calderon Berti has stated in New York that Venezuela is being criticized for producing more oil than permitted by OPEC, and that this criticism is baseless because the production limits expired on 30 June. He made this statement in an interview to [name indistinct].

According to this publication, Venezuela has been criticized nationally and internationally for ignoring the production quotas established by OPEC in order to reduce the excess supply in the market and protect prices.

Calderon Berti noted that production limits are not valid at the present time because they were only applied during one quarter, from April to June 1982. He said that Venezuela complied with the agreement in June, and for this reason our production is now over the limit.

BELGIAN FOREIGN MINISTER VISITS 12 NOV

PA132237 Paris AFP in Spanish 0334 GMT 13 Nov 82

[Excerpt] Caracas, 12 Nov (AFP) -- Leo Tindemans, the Belgian minister of external affairs, declared today that he wants to learn Venezuela's views on the world economic crisis and at the same time to improve cooperation between the EEC on one hand and Latin America and the Andean Pact on the other.

After meeting with Gonzalo Garcia Bustillos, the minister of the presidential secretariat, Tindemans indicated that he will talk with Venezuelan officials on ways of reaching an agreement between the EEC and Latin America.

EEC relations with the area declined considerably after the European group of nine offered its support to Great Britain in the Malvinas crisis and imposed economic sanctions on Argentina.

The Belgian diplomat described the viewpoints he discussed with Garcia Bustillos as "of great interest."

Garcia Bustillos was Venezuela's special envoy to Europe to make Latin America's view known during the South Atlantic conflict.

Tindemans also met with Venezuelan Foreign Minister Jose Alberto Zambrano. He described their conversation on the current world situation as "very frank."

Leo Tindemans arrived in Caracas last night on his second official visit to Venezuela. Shortly after his arrival, he held his first meeting with Zambrano.

The visitors met today for 45 minutes with Garcia Bustillos, accompanied by Prosper Thuysbaert, his chief political adviser, and by Jan Hendrick, his chief economic advisor.

Meets Local, Area Politicians

PA142226 Buenos Aires LATIN in Spanish 1549 GMT 14 Nov 82

[Excerpts] Caracas, 14 Nov (LATIN-REUTER) -- Belgian Foreign Minister Leo Tindemans will end an official visit to Venezuela today, traveling to Brazil at midnight for a visit.

Even though Tindemans called on the region to "jointly overcome its current economic crisis by confronting the existing protectionism, among other trade restrictions," his visit was also politically motivated.

After a brief breakfast meeting with Social Christian President Luis Herrera Campins, in which closer bilateral ties were outlined, the foreign minister held meetings with prominent local and area Christian Democrats.

Tindemans met with former Venezuelan Foreign Minister Aristides Calvani, who is currently secretary general of the Christian Democratic Organization of America, with whom he analyzed this organization's regional political position.

The Belgian foreign minister also met with a group of leaders from the Social Christian Party (COPEI) and with some Latin American leaders who live in Venezuela and who adhere to Social Christian policy. Among others, Tindemans spoke to Vinicio Cerezo from Guatemala; Jose Esteban Gonzalez, an opponent of the Nicaraguan Government; and Leslie Manigat, secretary general of the Nationalist Democrats of Haiti.

CONFERENCE FOR PEACE DENOUNCES U.S. ACTIONS

PA080228 Havana International Service in Spanish 0000 GMT 8 Nov 82

[Text] The First Conference for Democratization and Peace in Central America and the Caribbean, meeting in the Venezuelan city of Cumana, denounced the U.S. interventionist and aggressive plans against the peoples of that Latin American region. The meeting is being attended by representatives of various Venezuelan universities and by political and union leaders. The conference called for additional solidarity and support for the Nicaraguan people in the face of the imminent armed invasion being provoked by Ronald Reagan's government.

For his part, Eduardo Gallegos Mancera, secretary of foreign relations for the Communist Party of Venezuela, gave details of the U.S. maneuvers in Central America and warned that they endangered world peace.

FOREIGN SECRETARY CRITICIZES U.S. AT OAS

PA180308 Mexico City International Service in Spanish 0200 GMT 18 Nov 82

[Excerpt] Mexico today in Washington suggested changes in the OAS in order to solve the Central American crisis and to obtain just relations with the United States. During the 12th OAS General Assembly now being held in Washington, Jorge Castaneda, Mexican foreign relations secretary, said that the United States is disregarding the real situation of Latin America and has assumed a deceitful attitude regarding import duties.

Castaneda added that the unrest in Central America is the result of conditions that are the bitter fruits of poverty and oppression.

Castaneda said that the Malvinas Islands conflict placed in doubt the validity of the Inter-American Reciprocal Assistance Treaty, TIAR, approved in 1947 at the beginning of the cold war.

SENATOR REPRESENTS PRESIDENT AT BREZHNEV FUNERAL

PA170110 Mexico City International Service in Spanish 0200 GMT 16 Nov 82

[Text] Mexican Senator (Miguel Gonzalez Avelar) said in Moscow today that the presence of world leaders at the funeral of Soviet leader Leonid Brezhnev represents a rapprochement among governments. He attended the funeral on behalf of President Jose Lopez Portillo and President-elect Miguel de la Madrid Hurtado. He noted that the presence of chiefs of state in Moscow reveals the possibllity for negotiations on international conflicts.

The Mexican senator noted that during Brezhnev's administration there were important points of coincidence with Mexican foreign policy, such as Moscow's support for the Tlatelolco Treaty on the prohibition of nuclear weapons.

He stressed that following the changes in the Governments of Mexico and the USSR, it is foreseeable that good relations between the two countries will continue.

GOVERNMENT GETS FOREIGN DEBT PAYMENT EXTENSION

FL171430 Mexico City NOTIMEX in Spanish 0410 GMT 17 Nov 82

[Text] Mexico City, 16 Nov (NOTIMEX) -- The Secretariat of Finance and Public Credit confirmed this evening that Mexico got a further 120-day extension to pay its foreign debt. The Mexican Government had to pay an $8.5 billion short-term debt which would have been due on 23 November and $12.5 billion at medium and long term.

Officials of Mexico's Finance Secretariat began talks in New York with international banking officials last Thursday, negotiating the extension. The Finance Secretariat said the talks were held in a cordial atmosphere.

SUGAR WORKERS GET 25-PERCENT WAGE INCREASE

PA162348 Mexico City International Service in Spanish 0200 GMT 16 Nov 82

[Text] The country's 60,000 sugarmill workers have obtained a 25-percent salary increase, as well as 1.10 pesos per kilogram of sugar produced.

After this agreement was signed, Sergio Garcia Ramirez, labor and social welfare secretary, noted that his secretariat is continuing to negotiate in order to solve the strikes that were declared on 8 November.

CRITICA PRAISES DE LA ESPRIELLA PEACE EFFORTS

PA111916 Panama City CRITICA in Spanish 10 Nov 82 p 6

[Editorial: "Opening to Peace"]

[Text] President Ricardo de la Espriella has taken thorough advantage of his trip to Mexico and Central America to promote what could be characterized as the most ambitious regional peace initiative ever. His efforts become more significant when we consider that increasingly threatening dark war clouds are hovering over the isthmus that Morazan once dreamed of uniting into a single, stable, democratic republic.

The efforts toward equilibrium and detente between the factions struggling for power in El Salvador, as well as the efforts to prevent a conflict between Nicaragua and Honduras, are in line with the pacification role that Panama has been playing for several years from the days when under the direction of Omar Torrijos Herrera, sent diplomatic missions to promote a negotiated solution to the fraticidal Salvadoran conflict and thus to put an end to the drama being endured by that nation.

The offer of Panama to host peace talks is of great value in the framework of the mediation effort that De La Espriella is promoting in his talks with the president of Mexico and the Nicaraguan leaders. This offer has served to confirm the national government's decision to become an active agent for peace using the mechanisms and channels at its disposal and without overlooking any possibility for finding formulas that could lead to a diplomatic solution of existing and potential war situations.

The Central American community must evaluate this Panamanian effort aimed at securing a negotiated solution to the differences that greatly separate the warring parties. This effort is in line with the spirit that appeared in the country when it solved its differences with the United States through active diplomatic efforts.

LA PRENSA Cites Communist Ties

PA132140 Panama City LA PRENSA in Spanish 11 Nov 82 p 6A

["Without Rhyme or Reason" column by Mario J. de Obaldia]

[Text] When I read that Ricardo de la Espriella woudl travel to Mexico accompanied by his personal advisers Nils Castro, Cyden Ortega, Jose Blandon and Gerardo Gonzalez, I could not but think: "I wonder what terrible communist plan these gentlemen are trying to get innocent Ricardo involved in?" And it is not that I presume to be clairvoyant. It is that anyone who knows of these gentlemen's record and the interests that rule their behavior could have asked themselves this troublesome question. And the very fact that Ricardo, who knows them very well, should have selected them to join him on this trip...well, this detail was very -- I would say too -- significant. A rightist, or one who claims to be rightist, accompanied by communists, is something that arouses the suspicions of those of us who know how deep into the mud the local communists have gotten us. We really were not prepared to witness this scene, which does not fit into the picture whose filming began on 31 July, or at least does not fit into what we were told would be the plot of the film -- unless one only looks at the Cuban and Nicaraguan films that channel 11 (educational television) has been showing, which are excellent communist propaganda and are shown in Panama every day at our expense.

A few hours after he left, we proved that our suspicions were not unfounded.

We found out why the communists were present. Mr de la Espriella stopped over in Nicaragua, where the cream of the Nicaraguan communist crop awaited him. Ricardo wanted to show the mangy dogs [piricuacos] that it is not true that his government has left out Panamanian Marxists. Mr de la Espriella said that the stopover was due to his desire to hear the views of the mangy dogs. He did not have to stop over for this. The Sandinists, through their diplomats, have told them to him a thousand times. But it seems as if our president enjoys listening to the same lies over and over again. So much for the president and his tastes.

Speaking of the Central American situation, Ricardo says: "We cannot separate ourselves from what is happening." Of course we can't, for the simple reason that the process is partly responsible for the tragedy that the region is experiencing today. He adds: "We listened to the viewpoints of the Nicaraguan representatives on the subject." With all due respect for the presidential statement, I do not agree with him. The authentic representatives of Nicaragua, those who have not been killed by the mangy dogs, are in prison or exile. Ricardo stopped over in Managua at the insistence of his advisers, trying to give a little oxygen to the satraps who are scared as they watch their satrapy come to its end. They believe that with a few new promises, which they do not plan to carry out, they can win the innocent friendship of a new protector who has recently decided to surround himself with "traveling companions" of the Sandinists. It would be advisable for Ricardo to know that a foreign invasion against the Sandinists will not come. It is the exiled Nicaraguans who want to return and free their country who will get there soon. And that return cannot be stopped by his communist advisers, or by himself or by Lopez Portillo. But it hurts to see a Panamanian president waste his time on useless adventures trying to offer to others the peace that it would be preferable for him to offer to the Panamanian people, who should be his main concern.

DE LEON ARIAS QUITS PRD, BECOMES INDEPENDENT

PA162226 Panama City Circuito RPC Television in Spanish 1715 GMT 16 Nov 82

[Letter from Dr Luis de Leon Arias, member of the Revolutionary Democratic Party, PRD, to PRD President Prof Berta Torrijos de Arosemena, dated 14 November -- read by announcer]

[Text] Panama, 14 November 1982

Prof Berta Torrijos de Arosemena,

President, Democratic Revolutionary Party

Panama

Dear Professor:

With all the respect you deserve, I wish to formally announce and notify the members of the party of my resignation as a registered member of the Revolutionary Democratic Party, PRD. I have made this decision according to my conscience and within the context of the right of freedom of thought.

I also want to announce in this letter my decision to participate in local politics as an independent.

My former fellow party members can rest assured of my friendship and respect.

Sincerely yours,

Luis de Leon Arias, Cedula No 2-42-1081

PRD Likened to Sinking Ship

PA130020 Panama City LA PRENSA in Spanish 9 Nov 82 p 8A

["Following the Line" column by Jose Antonio Sossa Rodriguez; passages in all capitals denote boldface as published]

Text] On 22 January in this newspaper column I said that the boat was sinking and that the boat was the PRD [Democratic Revolutionary Party]. Today, 10 months later, that statement is an evident reality.

The civilians who have prospered from the public funds and the clique who have contributed to impoverishing the country and its inhabitants can no longer find arguments to convince the military men to continue maintaining them in their undeserved positions in public power.

The PRD, a mixture of apostate communists and capitalists identified with the banner of opportunism, is seeing the self-destruction of its so-called leadership. Some of its leaders, such as Treasurer Alberto Pons and Vice President Jorge Medrano, have resigned or have begun to SILENTLY and inconspicuously disappears. Other leaders, such as Assistant Secretary General Abraham Saied and Secretary General Ernesto Perez Balladares, are leaving with the noise and ballyhoo surrounding an indictment for embezzlement and misappropriation of public funds or an alleged coupist "putsch."

The wake that the PRD, its personalities, promoters and protectors have left us will be difficult to correct. Its labor sector has been a master at perpetuating its leadership and at creating the mafias in the transportation, construction and electric power sectors. It's not necessary to mention some important sectors' sponsorship of the imposed banana workers' leadership. The denunciation of the misappropriation of funds in the Fenacota [National Federation of Transport Cooperatives] and the abetting silence maintained by the previous workers' representatives to the Social Security Board of Directors are eloquent testimony of loyalty to the PRD flag: opportunism.

However, the PRD business executives' front is not far behind with its merits. The Marriott Hotel, Cofina [National Financial Corporation], Codemin [Cerro Colorado Mining Development Corporation], the Americano Hospital and other profitable businesses of the "PROMOTERS" are rewards which distinguish and make the most notable PRD business leaders stand out.

It could not be otherwise. How could these young politicians, union and business leaders not stand out with the arrogant school and exemplary teachings of the former retired president [referring to former President Aristides Royo] and the memorable crazy nut, Nan and Chichica [referring to former Vice President Gerardo Gonzalez, former Comptroller General Damian Castillo and former Attorney General Olmedo Miranda, respectively]?

This boatful of heroic deeds is becoming a real oceanliner with all that it is carrying away in its sinking.

It would be worthwhile if those who esteem and respect themselves would think before they present themselves as continuators of this PROCESS OF DECOMPOSITION and much less before they say that they are backed by those prizewinners.

It is again being demostrated that there is no disease that will last 100 years or a body that will put up with it. The citizens who with courage and altruism have been able to withstand and struggle in these years of lack of democracy can well begin to see the light at the end of the tunnel through which we have had to walk for the past 14 years. As long as there are honest and loyal Panamanians, there will be a republic!

Arias Calderon Declares Candidacy

PA162333 Panama City MATUTINO in Spanish 15 Nov 82 pp 1A, 8A

[Text] Ricardo Arias Calderon, availing himself of the swearing-in ceremony of the new newsmen's directorate, proclaimed himself the opposition parties' candidate for the 1984 presidential elections.

The Christian Democratic leader stressed his presidential ambitions and left no doubt his victory when he spoke with a group of newsmen and personalities who attended the event, including the former secretary general. He told them to "greet me because I will be president of the republic in 1984, and you will have to come to me."

Appearances in Churches and at Parties

Arias Calderon's relevant statement and the frequent appearances he has been making lately at parties, churches, banquets and on television (something he never did before) corroborate his political ambition of becoming all the opposition parties' candidate.

Unqualified Support

During his statement, Arias Calderon pointed out that he had the unqualified support and consensus of both the leaders and members of the Liberal Party, Panamenist Party, Popular Nationalist Party, Nationalist Liberal Republican Movement and People's Action Party.

Cochez Seeking the Vice Presidency

Arias Calderon attended the event at the newsmen's house accompanied by Guillermo Cochez, who reportedly is seeking the vice presidency. Arias Calderon's self-proclamation on Saturday night has clearly established the Christian Democrats' intention of placing their party's leader in the political picture as the most capable, intelligent and honest man, and unquestionably the opposition's most suitable candidate for the 1984 election.

LA REPUBLICA on Political Outlook

PA160403 Panama City LA REPUBLICA in Spanish 14 Nov 82 p 12-E

[From the "Sunday Summary" feature by Jose Agustin Cajar Escala: "Politics"]

[Text] This coming week could be one of great political commotion. President Ricardo de la Espriella's government should have completed its study of the government's candidates, who, together with the others parties' candidates, will discuss reforms of the electoral law. There will apparently be two sides: On the one hand, that of the parties that support the regime and the probable candidacy of General Paredes; and on the other, the seven opposition of parties, which will come to the table with the reforms they will demand from the executive branch. There will also be a group of experts, appointed by the national government, who will have their own views and who are to examine the reforms that will be submitted.

It is very likely that the reforms submitted by the experts, by the parties that support the regime and by the opposition parties, which will act as a single front on this occasion, will not coincide. We have learned from reliable sources that among other things, the opposition parties will request that the presidential term be 5 years rather than 4 and that, just as no president of the republic may be reelected until after two intervening administrations, the same rule be applied to the National Guard so that the commander in chief cannot be a candidate immediately after resigning his post. This proposal is in direct opposition to Gen Ruben Dario Paredes' candidacy.

The opposition will also submit a constitutional amendment by which the justices of the Supreme Court of Justice would be appointed in accordance with a staggered system, as was previously the case, so that there is always a justice from the previous administration in the Supreme Court. The opposition will agree that mayors should be elected, that the National Assembly, rather than the Assembly of Representatives, should appoint the comptroller general, and that the assembly, or the National Legislation Council, or whatever it is called, should be elected directly by the people on the basis of electoral districts determined by the number of voters. They will propose certain limitations upon the Assembly of Corregimento Representatives so that it may act as a factor in the development of the corregimientos and the provinces. They will also demand that the second article in the law be amended so that the National Guard can no longer act as a determining factor in the nation's politics.

Experts on domestic politics believe that no agreement will be reached on major issues in the reforms between the opposition and the parties that support the process and General Paredes' plans, and that the opposition will then demand that the two alternatives be submitted to the people so that they can decide which they prefer. The question is whether the central government will accept this formula or decide upon one set of reforms, approved by consensus, to be submitted to the people.

In the meantime, political circles are seriously discussing the fact that the opposition parties, which have been holding weekly meetings to discuss various aspects of their political strategy, could be on the right track on all of the problems in the bills that they will submit to the assembly, in the reforms to the labor law and in the housing laws, but it is felt that pandemonium could break out when it is time to chose the presidential candidate. The liberals want their own candidate, whom they have not selected. There is an internal struggle going on among the Chiaris, because Don Popo wants Popito and the other Chiaris want Baby Arango. And what is even worse, the Samudist faction, with Baby Aleman, Aquilino Boyd and other outstanding figures, are willing to support the candidacy of General Paredes if he runs for the presidency.

The Nationalist Liberal Republican Movement, Molirena, believes that the opposition should unite, and that if the Liberals do not participate, the logical candidate would be Dr Arnulfo Arias, with Ruben D. Carles as the vice presidential candidate. The Christian Democratic Party brooks no argument; it is either Dr Ricardo Arias Calderon or chaos. The Popular Party, Papc, is taking a wait-and-see attitude. The Popular Nationalist Party, PNP, doesn't know what direction it should choose; thus, it is very possible that it will go along with Olimpo Saez' olympic candidacy.

In view of the situation, the possible candidacy of General Paredes would emerge as a solid one supported by several parties that, according to political circles, would include the Democratic Revolutionary Party, PRD; the Popular Broad Front, Frampo; the Republican Party, which is in the process of formation; the Labor Party, Pala, also in formation; and the People's Party. To this would be added the desidents' liberal faction and the powerful force of important private enterprise sectors.

We are approaching 1983 when, after the electoral census, there will be a plebiscite, when the registration to legalize parties that are forming will open, and when, without any doubt, General Paredes will resign. We shall then see what the political experts have to say and the direction in which the political compasses are pointing.

CRITICA Views Situation

PA152027 Panama City CRITICA in Spanish 15 Nov 82 p 10

[By Alvaro Menendez Franco: "1984 Candidacies" -- passages in all capitals donate boldface as published]

[Text] With the temporary political fall of Toro Baladares, the nickname of Gen OMAR TORRIJOS' spiritual child (several of us are in this category even if only a few persons acknowledge this fact), throughout the country there is a tendency to define and open a new front of struggle within the framework of the election situation. I want to say that in my humble opinion, Toro is not dead politically. On the contrary, he will again be an election figure as soon as the historic situation again touches his personal destiny. Any person who has been a political leader and who has a minimum of civilian or military merit can be reborn. That's life. Who could have told us that Mr Teng would be the absolute leader of the PRC considering that when we first visited that country in 1964, he was planting potatoes at a farm for ideological reeducation?

However, it is a fact that Ernesto Perez Balladares was [linked to] the fall of that political comet known as Aristides Royo, who was removed by the turns in the country's domestic political situation although he enjoyed undeniable international prestige and even international veneration. As soon as the world learned of Royo's white fall (white because there was no shooting or bloodshed), our room in the Havana Riviera Hotel was filled with Latin American visitors expressing their concern over and disagreement with the laryngitis resignation of the former president and jurist.

Royo had gained a great reputation outside his country as a revolutionary president, but in his country no one shouted one single accolade in his honor. Let's hope that President Ricardo de la Espriella will not experience a repeat of this situation. His latest trips and statements are giving him an internationalist reputation, but inside his country he still lacks roots among the masses.

Perez Balladares' resignation has set aside the line of former President Royo within the powerful Democratic Revolutionary Party, PRD, (I have been told confidentially that instead of weakening the party, the social security affair has resulted in 13,000 PANAMANIANS OVER 18 ASKING TO BE REGISTERED AS PARTY MEMBERS SINCE AUGUST) and has undoubtedly opened a road for Rigoberto Paredes, although Paredes, with his Christian modesty and sense, wants to play a secondary role. The arrival of anyone who inspires the PRD rank and file, even if that person is not Rigoberto Paredes, could open the doors for the national political campaign that we all are awaiting as one of the paths of democratization-through-elections bequeathed us by General Torrijos in his much ' quoted but seldom consulted "THE LINE". Undoubtedly, the political activities of Gen RUBEN DARIO PAREDES have gone up several points since 28 October. However, I have noticed that the nominee is making some blunders as a result of his great sincerity: HIS STATEMENT AT THE ELECTIONS TRIBUNAL PRACTICALLY CONTRADICTED THE STATEMENTS THAT PRESIDENT DE LA ESPRIELLA MADE IN MEXICO, MANAGUA AND PANAMA during his latest trip abroad. This duality could lead us to a crisis in the official political position both in and out of the PRD. It could also affect the national unity effort, thus again placing us on either the openly leftist or openly rightist sides that General Torrijos always wanted to avoid. He believed that any honest and efficient man is above his political interests of philosophy. But the way things are going today, it is impossible to speak of the possibility of a simple election contest of CIVILISTS VERSUS MILITARISTS since what is most noticeable on both sides is a lack of unity, and therefore there is the possibility of more than four presidential candidates, perhaps five or six, GOD HELP US.

PAREDES ADDRESSES PEOPLE OF EL CARRIAZO

PA140238 Panama City Televisora Nacional in Spanish 2300 GMT 13 Nov 82

["Excerpt" of statement by Gen Ruben Dario Paredes, Panamanian National Guard commander in chief, to residents of El Carriazo, Chepo District, Panama Province, on 13 November -- recorded]

[Excerpts] I was saying to a man here that when you see things like I have seen here and attend this kind of meeting -- which is not new to me; I have spent many years in these kinds of activities -- you feel that you are at least involved in learning about the people's problems. When we show up at a meeting accompanied by top government officials, like ministers and directors of autonomous institutions, it is because we want to know about your problems and see if we can somehow solve them.

I was saying, by a way of introduction, that we have many problems. Those that you have mentioned here today are the same problems that we have in other corregimientos; indeed, anywhere where there is a man living, working, struggling for his children, trying to educate them and support them until they are adults.

Yes, we do have problems and the world economy is seriously affecting our economy, which makes it hard to solve the problems that we have. This does not mean that they cannot be solved. However, if we are to solve them we must get together and forget our differences. The Panamanians have to get together, disregarding ideologies and religion, to solve the community's problems.

Any government that tries to govern the people in the future from the Palacio de las Garzas and any ministers who try to run business from their air-conditioned offices are looking for trouble. If this should happen, if the old system should return to power, I am certain that with the kind of people we have now, people that have learned to demand that their rulers work and produce, such a government would be doomed to collapse.

Opposes Mill's Closure

PA152201 Panama City CRITICA in Spanish 15 Nov 82 pp 1, 26

[Article by Jose "Checo" Gonzalez]

[Text] The government is trying to prevent the closure of the Felipillo sugarmill. On Saturday, Brig Gen Ruben Dario Paredes told a group of workers at this institution, who met in El Carriazo, in the San Martin Corregimiento, Chepo District, that "I have faith and hope that this sugarmill will not be closed."

General Paredes said that were the Felipillo sugarmill to close, thousands of peasants who depend upon the mill to support their families would be without jobs. It would also mean that all of the machinery there, valued at several million balboas, along with the 6,000 hectares of sugarcane, which still has 5 years of useful life, would be left to deteriorate.

General Paredes added that both the president and Agricultural Development Minister Frank Perez are very concerned about the situation at the Felipillo sugarmill, which is largely the result of the setback in the international sugar market. None of the sugar producers expected the price of sugar to drop from 45 cents to 6 cents per pound.

Among the difficulties that President Ricardo de la Espriella faces in finding a solution to this problem is something that the people, the man in the capital and the politicians should understand: this is the need to provide food to a great number of humble people. "Thus, if they cannot help to provide food for these families, they should stay away; I am talking about the politicians in a constructive and healthy way," General

Paredes said. He also said that the agricultural development minister will present President de la Espriella with two or three alternatives so that a solution to the problem can be found without sacrificing the many families that depend upon the Felipillo sugarmill for their living.

Columnist Rejects Candidacy

PA152307 Panama City LA PRENSA in Spanish 15 Nov 82 p 8-A

[Diogenes Quintero Alain article: "Five Reasons Not To Vote for Ruben Dario Paredes"]

[Text] I would like to state my opinion publicly about the imminent nomination of citizen Ruben Dario Paredes as a candidate for the presidency of the republic.

I must confess that I initially thought, in good faith, that citizen Ruben Dario Paredes was the solution to our current problems, which are well known to all. However, as time has passed I have reached the conclusion that this candidacy would not be advisable for the Panamanian people, now or in future, for the following reasons:

1. Paredes' candidacy and his subsequent election by the Panamanian people would simply mean a continuation of the current state of affairs and of the problems that have been plaguing our country for over 14 years. He would be a genuine representative of what these last 14 years have meant to the nation, which has further deteriorated in these last few years. Prolonging this situation would be tantamount to prolonging the original dictatorship.

2. The candidacy of citizen Ruben Dario Paredes would entail a continuation of the marriage of over 10 years among the armed forces, a select oligarchy and bad bishops (not bad priests).

3. Paredes' candidacy, which is being promoted by the North American Government on the pretext that it is necessary to keep Panama a "paradise of tranquillity" and of social peace, would also amount to unloading the sins committed by bad governments in the Central America area, now plagued by turmoil, on the stooped shoulders of the Panamanian people. The North Americans are wrong in thinking that this candidacy would be the most appropriate for the area's interests.

4. The military themselves are now questioning the value of military regimes in Brazil, Argentina and Bolivia. With varying speed, these countries are now moving toward real and effective democratization.

The most regrettable case is that of Bolivia, where the military recently admitted their inability to govern and decided to turn the task over to those who were elected by the people. It would be a great shame if we were to emerge in even worse shape than Bolivia, where the people awoke every morning to learn that they had a new president elected by the military.

5. In conclusion, citizen Ruben Dario Paredes is not the best candidate for president, not even with the blessing of Dr Arias, the North Americans or the FEP [Federation of Panamanian Students]. In my private soundings of public opinion, I have reached the conclusion, which I think is shared by most Panamanians, that the only political leader who has sufficient dignity -- which he has shown thus far -- to become president of the republic is Dr Carlos Ivan Zuniga. Among all hopefuls mentioned to date, he is the only one with sufficient moral stature to deserve the presidency. And he has more than the required ability, too.

As the professional organization that it is, the National Guard should limit itself to safeguarding the life, honor and property of our citizens and abstain from meddling in partisan politics, as it has been doing since the birth of the Democratic Revolutionary Party, which is now so discredited.

I ask the Panamanian people to show maturity and to reflect deeply on these five points. In the final analysis, it behooves our people to have the last say as to who should be our next president.

BELIZE

GOVERNMENT ESTABLISHES RELATIONS WITH SWEDEN

FL171730 Bridgetown CANA in ENglish 1712 GMT 17 Nov 82

[Text] Belmopan, Belize, Nov. 17, CANA -- Sweden has accredited its first non-resident ambassador to Belize, signalling the establishment of formal diplomatic relations between the two countries.

A government statement said today Ambassador Erik Tennender had presented his credentials to Governor-General Dr Minita Gordon on Monday. The statement added that both the Swedish envoy and the Belize head of state hoped that the establishment of diplomatic relations between the two countries would strengthen the bonds of friendship between their peoples.

Mr Tennender also had discussions with Acting Prime Minister Carl Rogers to learn in what ways Sweden could assist Belize in its development.

COSTA RICA

VOLIO EXPLAINS POSITION ON BORDER ISSUE

PA162104 Managua Radio Sandino in Spanish 1830 GMT 16 Nov 82

[Text] Costa Rican Foreign Minister Fernando Volio Jimenez has made a new statement about the border problems between Costa Rica and Nicaragua. A Costa Rican Foreign Ministry spokesman said yesterday that the negotiations with Nicaragua to solve border problems are at a standstill because a more serious obstacle has emerged for the normalization of bilaterial relations.

The Costa Rican spokesman said that in a recent meeting between the two foreign ministers at UN Headquarters in New York, Costa Rican Foriegn Minister Fernando Volio told Nicaraguan Foreign Minister Miguel D'Escoto that as long as the border disputes were unresolved it is difficult to talk of normal relations. He added that under no circumstances will rights over the San Juan River be ceded, and that this is the reply to a recent Nicaraguan Foreign Ministry note that insisted on Nicaragua's right to control navigation on the river.

The Costa Rican Foreign Ministry indicated that when Volio met with D'Escoto on 13 October, he reiterated that the most delicate issue in their bilateral relations is the Nicaraguan authorities' control over the San Juan River, which Costa Rica now does not accept. In the past, Costa Rica accepted this as a juridical, real and categorical fact by virtue of a sovereignty that is outside any discussion.

DEPUTY SWORN IN CRITICIZES VOLIO'S 'ARROGANCE'

PA172354 San Jose Radio Reloj in Spanish 1200 GMT 17 Nov 82

[Text] According to United People Deputy Dr (Alvaro Montero Mejia), Foreign Minister Fernando Volio is adopting arrogant stands. The differences that exist within Mr Monge's cabinet are evident, (Montero Mejia) claimed. On the one hand, there is the will to hold dialogues, to conduct negotiations and to maintain respectful relations with our neighbors, as expressed by the security minister. On the other hand, we have Foreign Minister Volio's completely arrogant and almost aggressive stands, Deputy (Montero Mejia) noted.

By the way, he added, these stands in no way reflect the Costa Rican people's feelings. They are not in accordance with the desire for peace shared by thousands of Costa Ricans, regardless of whether or not they approve of the tasks currently underway as part of the Nicaraguan process.

The Costa Rican people are aware that we must maintain respectful relations characterized by cooperation with out Nicaraguan brothers and their government, Deputy (Montero Mejia) went on. All this leads to a discrepancy between the national values, marked by peace, security and good relations, and a stand that has nothing to do with the Costa Rican people's feelings, which is characterized by hostility, opposition to dialogue and, on occasion, a warmongering stance, Deputy (Montero Mejia) said.

(Montero Mejia) was sworn in as deputy yesterday, after Eduardo Mora Valverde tendered his resignation for the second time, in keeping with an agreement reached with the United People coalition prior to the elections.

AUTHORITIES MAKE ARRESTS AT MILITARY CAMP

PA170449 Panama City ACAN in Spanish 1303 GMT 16 Nov 82

[Text] San Jose, 16 Nov (ACAN-EFE) -- The Judicial Investigation Organization, OIJ, discovered a military camp while investigating a homicide committed last Thursday. The victim was Jose Erudes Chaves, 26, a Costa Rican citizen, who according to witnesses was murdered by Nicaraguans.

Public Security Minister Angel Edmundo Solano reported that during an investigation to try to locate the persons who killed Chaves, the police visited the home of one witness in Las Vueltas, a village 5 km from the Nicaraguan border, and found a large quantity of arms and ammunition.

Five persons were in the house. According to Minister Solano, one was a Costa Rican, one Salvadoran and three were Nicaraguans. The foreigners did not have their papers in order and were placed under the orders of the immigration authorities and the national security agency.

According to Minister Solano, it is believed "that the five persons arrested are members of an anti-Sandinist group."

The authorities believe that the recently abandoned camp could hold some 40 men.

BRIEFS

NEW COINS -- The Central Bank has announced that new coins will begin circulating in December. The 1 colon coins will measure 21 mm, the 2 colon coins will measure 23 mm and the 50 cent coins will measure 19 mm. [San Jose Radio Reloj in Spanish 1330 GMT 14 Nov 82 PA]

EL SALVADOR

AMBASSADOR TO HONDURAS REJECTS COUP RUMORS

PA160247 Panama City ACAN in Spanish 1810 GMT 15 Nov 82

[Text] Tegucigalpa, 15 Nov (ACAN-EFE) -- Salvadoran Ambassador to Honduras Sigfrido Munes rejected rumors of an imminent coup d'etat in his country today.

"We have struggled a great deal, it has cost us much and we have truly suffered to implement the democratization process in our country. We are intent on defending democratic institutions and thus I can dismiss the possibility of a coup," the diplomat noted.

He added: "The last elections speak clearly of the will of the people, of their testimony as to what is really happening. The coup rumors originate with parties that are interested in a violent solution to the country's problems."

"I believe that the only solution is a peaceful and democratic one. The most important thing is to grant the people the chance to express themselves through the only system in which they can do so freely: the electoral system -- democratic, free and pure," Munes affirmed.

PROVISIONAL CCE LAW PRESENTED TO ASSEMBLY

PA171947 San Salvador EL DIARIO DE HOY in Spanish 16 Nov 82

[Excerpt] The draft of a provisional law that regulates the activities of the Central Electoral Council [CCE] was presented yesterday to Maj Roberto d'Aubuisson, president of the Constituent Assembly.

The document was presented by the new members of the CCE, including Armando Rodriguez Eguizabal. He said they made an effort to draft a provisional legal procedure that meets the needs of the CCE and permits the fulfillment of its functions while the electoral law is being drafted. "This draft," Rodriguez Eguizabal said, "is in harmony with the current political parties law." Representatives of the registered parties participated in drafting the document so it is hoped that the law will guarantee the honesty of the elections, he added. Rodriguez Eguizabal said that in this way, the party representatives know that the CCE will work for an egalitarian and clean electoral process.

PROCESO ANALYZES DIVISIONS WITHIN GOVERNMENT

PA180057 San Salvador PROCESO in Spanish 1-7 Nov 82 pp 1, 2

[Editorial: "Defining Positions"]

[Excerpts] The recent proposal for a dialogue from the FMLN and the FDR [Revolutionary Democratic Front] and a speech by U.S. Ambassador Hinton severely criticizing the system of justice and the persistent violation of human rights in the country seem to have increased the tensions among the various groups that comprise the "National Unity Government." Reactions to these events make it more clear which forces support the two political trends that are competing within the power structure.

The private sector organizations, the country's main newspapers. leaders of the Nationalist Republican Alliance, Arena, and their support groups have continued to express their opposition to any dialogue with the FMLN-FDR and have vigorously attacked the views expressed by Mr Hinton. The Crusade for Peace and Work has accused him of carrying out a "detestable intervention," and has asked the armed forces if they are going to publicly admit the "assassination" of more than 30,000 Salvadorans. For its part, a local newspaper published an editorial on the speech, saying that "we are fighting a war that is not ours" and that "in a war all rights are suspended."

The holding of the "Crusade for Peace," sponsored by the Democratic Popular Unity, UPD, in which leaders of the Christian Democratic Party, the National Conciliation Party and the Democratic Action Party participated, seems to give credibility to persistent rumors about the creation of a bloc that would seek control of the assembly with the consequent isolation of Arena. The bloc would apprently be willing at least to look into the FMLN-FDR proposal. The meetings of the aforementioned parties and their voting as a group for the election of the Central Electoral Council have also given rise to rumors about changes in the Board of Directors of the assembly.

In the background, the war continues. The FMLN offensive is already in its fourth week. The latest war actions seems to suggest that the offensive announced by the armed forces is not yielding all the desired results.

The country's situation of war and political weakness continues to affect its paralyzed economy. The most devastating effects of this situation continue to fall on the working class.

In this way, both internationally and nationally, the week has been filled with some definitions and clarifications of positions. It is gradually becoming more evident who are the enemies of peace and who are the enemies of war in Central America.

FMLN REBELS CLAIM SUCCESSES IN CHALATENANGO

PA172116 (Clandestine) Radio Venceremos in Spanish to El Salvador 0230 GMT 17 Nov 82

[War bulletin from the Modesto Ramirez Central Front -- no date given -- read by announcer]

[Text] FMLN vanguard units and guerrilla columns carried out the Chalatenango heroic combat revolutionary operation in solidarity with the FMLN masses and fighters in Chalatenango who are defeating a genocidal offensive of the criminals Garcia, D'Aubuisson and Magana conducted with U.S. military advice and jointly with Honduran troops.

The Chalatenango heroic combat revolutionary operation consisted of encircling, attacking and eliminating enemy fortifications at (Trapichon) farm, 2 km north of the San Francisco sugarmill, Aguilares jurisdiction, San Salvador Department. These fortifications were manned by 30 members of the 5th Company of the 1st Brigade of the San Carlos military post. They had seven trenches defended with M-16 rifles, M-79 grenade launchers and M-60 machineguns. The farm is located on a plain surrounded by sugarcane plantations, a location that enhanced its security.

At 0335 on 14 November, within the framework of the FMLN October 1979-80 Heroes and Martyrs political-military campaign, vanguard units and guerrilla columns began simultaneous surprise attacks on all trenches at the fortification. The first trench attacked was immediately overrun by FMLN forces, who recovered several M-16 rifles. At 0605, enemy reinforcements started to arrive from the San Francisco sugarmill. A (Massinger) truck carrying troops was surprised by FMLN forces as it left the sugarmill. The enemy suffered an unspecified number of casualties. Some of these forces had to return to the sugarmill to await reinforcements from San Salvador or other neighboring cities.

At 0230 a helicopter arrived and for 2 hours engaged in a sustained attack with machinegun fire and M-79 grenades against our positions without achieving any results.

At 0430, as fighting continued in the attack on the enemy fortifications, army reinforcements arrived in an effort to prevent our forces from gaining their objectives of eliminating the enemy and recovering their weapons. At 0500, after our forces offered the enemy troops an opportunity to surrender to save their lives, which was turned down, the FMLN units proceeded to an all-out attack on the enemy positions with the use of explosives.

At 0545 hours, a U.S.-manufactured A-37 plane arrived and fired a total of 14 rockets while strafing the area around the (Trapichon) farm in an effort to hit and eliminate our forces. Our withdrawal, however, was orderly and without problems.

The operation was directed by Companero (Rocco) and Commander (Rogelio). Companero (Luis) played an outstanding role in placing explosives, as well as Companero (Vladimir), who, although wounded, continued to fight. We deeply regret that Companeros (Israel) and (Albertico) fell in the action.

The results of the Chalatenango heroic combat revolutionary operation were: 29 confirmed enemy casualties at the site of the attack, including 10 dead and 19 seriously wounded; an unspecified number of casualties in the blocking ambushes; and the destruction of the (Trapichon) farm, which had been fortified by the enemy. Our forces recovered the following materiel: seven M-16 rifles, two M-79 grenade launchers, one M-70 machinegun, as well as a large amount of ammunition and other war materiel.

To conquer, eliminate and confiscate! United to fight until final victory! Revolution or death, we will win!

The above report is signed by Commander (Ricardo Gutierrez) and Commander (Rogelio Martinez).

FMLN INFLICTS 11 CASUALTIES IN SANTA CLARA

PA172222 (Clandestine) Radio Venceremos in Spanish to El Salvador 0230 GMT 17 Nov 82

[War bulletin issued by the Anastasio Aquino Paracentral Front -- no date given -- read by announcer]

[Excerpt] At 0900 today, 16 November, FMLN forces led by Companeros Commanders (Adan) and (Silvano) engaged in heavy fighting with the dictatorship's forces near Santa Clara in San Vicente Department, on the Santa Clara-San Ildefonso road.

Approximately 50 soldiers of the dictatorship were guarding an 81-mm mortar, which they were trying to set up in order to fire at our positions. The mortar was carried in a private pickup truck. Our forces encircled them and with great revolutionary spirit began firing at them, inflicting 11 casualties on the enemy, including both dead and wounded.

The dictatorship's troops showed their low morale when they fled, carrying the wounded without putting up any resistance and leaving behind the vehicle in which they carried the mortar, along with the body of (Juan Ortega Lucero), a 19-year-old soldier who was a member of the 3d Company of the 5th Infantry Brigade.

After the situation was under our forces' control, they proceeded to recover the following war materiel: 1 81-mm mortar with all accessories, 12 rounds of ammunition for this mortar, 1 M-16 rifle with ammunition, 1 .45-cal gun, 9 M-79 grenades and a private vehicle, which was later completely destroyed, as well as other war materiel.

FMLN REPORTS 95 ENEMY CASUALTIES IN 48 HOURS

PA172210 (Clandestine) Radio Venceremos in Spanish to El Salvador 0230 GMT 17 Nov 82

[Text] Our forces have inflicted a total of 95 confirmed casualties on the enemy throughout the country in the last 48 hours.

Our forces in Chalatenango are successfully facing the new operation by the dictatorship. In view of our forces' advance, the dictatorship has resorted to lies and a campaign of confusion.

The top military command and General Garcia are talking about large offensives in Chalatenango and Morazan. In Chalatenango, our people are defeating the alleged large operation; in Morazan the only offensive underway is that of our revolutionary army, which defeated two companies on the San Francisco Gotera-Corinto road.

We are still holding the positions we won more than a month ago in Corinto. The enemy is talking about the death of our leaders when the truth is the following: (Maj Arturo Lopez), a commander of the dictatorship, fled in panic in Morazan; while in Chalatenango, another major, Maj (Armando Aviles), was seriously wounded.

Our forces are advancing. The enemy is retreating. The dictatorship's troops are not the only ones retreating. General Alvarez' invading troops are also retreating. Salvadoran youths, join your revolutionary army to obtain peace. The march to victory doesn't stop.

FMLN DENIES REPORTED DEATH OF REBEL LEADER

PA171901 (Clandestine) Radio Venceremos in Spanish to El Salvador 0230 GMT 17 Nov 82

[FMLN communique, no date given -- read by announcer]

[Text] The FMLN announces to the Salvadoran people and international news agencies that:

1. Within the framework of the 1979-80 October Heroes and Martyrs military campaign, the Salvadoran dictatorship has been involved in a campaign of confusion aimed at neutralizing the political and moral effects that the great military victories won at the national level have on the people, the army ranks and the various sectors of Salvadoran society.

2. The dictatorship's military forces have not yet shown any capacity to respond. They have been unable to control or stop the victorious development of our military campaign. They have been forced into a defensive position. They've gone from failure to failure, losing men and weapons. Thus far in our 1979-80 October Heros and Martyrs military campaign, we've inflicted over 671 casualties on the dictatorship's troops. We've also recovered 380 rifles and captured 197 prisoners of war, most of whom have been released. They have not been able to stop our sabotage in the country's cities.

Consequently, in a desperate action, they have done the only thing they can: launch an absurd campaign of confusion which will have no effect because the sun can't be hidden with a finger.

The top fascist command and General Garcia, masters of lies and delusions of grandeur, have initially started an enemy radio station that is trying to pass itself off as an FMLN radio and whose frequency is close to that of Radio Venceremos.

In addition, they are launching a publicity campaign, an alleged large offensive with the participation of thousands of army soldiers in Chalatenango and Morazan Departments. The truth is that the army's 4000-man offensive in Chalatenango has borne no fruit and there is no such offensive in Morazan.

3. In conclusion, on 15 November they circulated the false report that Commander Salvador Cayetano Carpio, Commander Marcial, had been killed in action in Chalatenango Department. This report was disseminated by the media on 16 November.

In the face of this enemy campaign of confusion, we urge our people to only take into account the reports that Radio Venceremos, the FMLN's official voice, and Radio Farabundo Marti give. We urge the local media not to lend themselves to this game and not become instruments supporting the policy of the fascist dictatorship.

FMLN DEMANDS WITHDRAWAL OF HONDURAN TROOPS

PA171402 (Clandestine) Radio Venceremos in Spanish to El Salvador 1200 GMT 17 Nov 82

[Text] As the general command of the Francisco Sanchez Northeastern Front reported on 10 November, the Honduran Army moved troops along the border with El Salvador. This included the positions of Las Flores, Las Vueltas, El Alumbrador Hill, Sabanetas, Las Pilas and the banks of the Torola River, north of the town of Joateca.

Now, as clear demonstration of the coordination between the high military commands of Honduras and El Salvador, all the infantry and artillery battalions of the border region have been deployed to the front line and the 2nd Infantry Battalion, a special tactical unit trained in counterinsurgency, was transferred from Tegucigalpa.

To show the Honduran Army's involvement in the Salvadoran war, we report that Col Humberto Regalado Hernandez is in charge of the military operations. He is accompanied by (Leonel Riera Lunati), Rodolfo Bonilla Blanco, Luis Alonso Cardona, Roman Tavora and Rigoberto Regalado Lara, who are high-ranking officers and members of the Honduran Armed Forces Supreme Council. That council is comprised of 25 officers who decide armed forces internal policy and the life of the Honduran people.

We also report that Gen Gustavo Alvarez, chief of the Honduran Armed Forces, is in the region bordering El Salvador. With clear warmongering and interventionist remarks, he urged the Honduran troops to fight to defend the sovereignty and territory that is supposedly threatened by our revolutionary forces. General Alvarez' statement, the participation of the main Honduran Army commanders and the mobilization of the infantry and artillery troops are concrete and obvious proof that the orders of Fred Ikle, U.S. under secretary of defense for policy, and Wallace Nutting, head of the U.S. Southern Command, are being carried out by the Honduran high military command. Ikle and Nutting's visit to Honduras and El Salvador had one objective: to launch a coordinated offensive against our revolutionary forces in view of the FMLN's successful campaign. The FMLN campaign has once again shown that the dictatorship's army is being defeated on the battlefield.

Gen Gustavo Alvarez and the high military command are acting behind the backs of the Honduran people. The Honduran people do not want war.

This has been stated by many union and popular organizations and even by Liberal Party members such as Deputy Modesto Rodas Baca who charged before the Honduran Congress that the armed forces are acting behind the backs of the people and are refusing to give information on their covert activities which are leading the Honduran people into a war that considers none of their interests.

The FMLN calls on the Honduran people and their revolutionary, democratic and popular organizations to repudiate and demand the withdrawal of Honduran troops from our territory.

GUATEMALA

BUSINESSMEN CRITICIZE NEW IMPORTS RESTRICTIONS

PA171625 Panama City ACAN in Spanish 1943 GMT 16 Nov 82

[Text] Guatemala City, 16 Nov (ACAN-EFE) -- The Guatemalan private sector today reacted with concern and distrust to the government agreement establishing import quotas for products considered nonessential.

Immediately after the announcement was made by the Guatemalan Government, directors of the different chambers of commerce met to analyze the measure.

The Coordinating Committee of Farming, Commercial, Industrial and Financial Associations, CACIF, issued a communique pointing out that this measure "really caps it all, because now it will be much more difficult to achieve the long-expected economic reactivation and to stop unemployment in the country."

The communique adds that "to differentiate between so-called luxury products and basic ones is a tremendous mistake which will only help to muddle and further delay economic development."

According to CACIF, "It is absurd to impose the same restrictive measures in Guatemala that have already amply proved their inefficiency and failed in other area countries like El Salvador and Costa Rica."

The businessmen said, "These countries not only failed to improve their foreign exchange reserves but have sunk into a worse economic depression than before they adopted measures that went against the market economy.

They add that "establishment of import quotas and merchandise controls will only increase corruption, because it lends itself to cliques and privileges, and bureaucracy."

After careful analysis of the government decrees, they said, they are sure that the controls and restrictions will provoke the same high inflation rate next year as in Costa Rica (100 percent), El Salvador (15 percent), or Nicaragua (28 percent), where this type of control has been in effect. Meanwhile, inflation in Guatemala has been only 5 percent, "thanks to an economy based on free enterprise."

According to the government, the measure, which comes into effect today, was adopted to invigorate the economy and strengthen the balance of payments.

REPUBLIC RECEIVES KOREAN PACIFIC SUMMIT PROPOSAL

PA170324 Guatemala City DIARIO DE CENTRO AMERICA in Spanish 8 Nov 82 pp 2, 8

[Text] According to a report issued by the South Korean Embassy in our country, South Korea has proposed to Guatemala a Pacific alliance of 37 countries. According to the embassy, the Korean chief of state seeks to find "the most effective path to overcome obstacles and challenges on the way to beginning an era of the Pacific."

The countries of this continent that have coasts on the Pacific are the United States, Canada, Mexico, Guatemala, El Salvador, Honduras, Nicaragua, Costa Rica, Panama, Colombia, Peru, Ecuador and Chile. In Asia these countries are Japan, the Republic of Korea, the DPRK, Indonesia, Malaysia, Thailand, the PRC, Taiwan, Hong Kong, Vietnam and Kampuchea. In Oceania these countries are Australia, the Philippines, Singapore, New Guinea, Fiji, Samoa, Tonga, Solomon and other islands.

The Korean proposal calls for a meeting of Pacific country leaders to discuss matters of common interest in order to find paths for regional cooperation among the developed countries and the developing countries (North-South) of the Pacific area.

It was added that the Pacific summit should be flexible and based on the principles of equality, mutual respect and reciprocity without political, ideological or military implications but with goals of economic cooperation, trade expansion, promotion of human resources, transfer of technology, development and effective use of natural resources including marine resources, attention to food and population problems, cultural exchange, as well as the improvement of maritime and air transportation and communications.

The formula proposed for the summit of Pacific leaders is simple and practical and is aimed not at creating a bureaucratic entity but towards an effective system of consultation and understanding in which administrative requirements will be covered by the host country of each conference.

The conference would be presided over by the head of government of the host country, and the agreements would be reached by general consensus in order to guarantee compliance and not create differences with a voting procedure. The agreements reached at each summit would be announced at the end of the meeting, as well as the site of the next meeting.

HONDURAS

MILITARY CALLS FOR CHANGE IN CONSTITUTION

PA171622 Tegucigalpa Cadena Audio Video in Spanish 1145 GMT 17 Nov 82

[Excerpts] The Honduran Armed Forces have called for substantial changes to the Constitution. The Honduran Army has called for important changes regarding the interests of the Honduran Armed Forces.

In the opinion of some deputies, the Honduran Army wants to step out of its non-belligerent and apolitical status to become more belligerent and more political in the future.

Yesterday the Honduran Armed Forces requested at the National Congress that the Constitution be reformed. The Constitution has been in effect less than a year. According to some deputies, the reforms could turn the army into a political institution in the near future.

The reforms would affect the rank of division general, which would no longer be granted since our army has no divisions.

There are important reforms. The reforms proposed by the armed forces call for stripping the president of the republic of his rank as commander in chief of the armed forces and for merely giving him the ceremonial title of supreme chief, with the current armed forces chief becoming the commander in chief of the Honduran Armed Forces.

At the end of yesterday's session, the president of Congress appointed a commission to prepare a report on the armed forces reform bill and to present the report to the legislature. Once this report is presented, it will be discussed for approval. If the bill is approved this year, it will have to be discussed and approved again next year by next year's legislature. If the reform receives 2/3 of the votes, the bill would go into effect and therefore the current Constitution would be reformed. The current Constitution was approved less than a year ago.

A large majority of National Congress deputies believe that the bill to reform the national Constitution presented by the Honduran Armed Forces is contrary to law.

However, Efrain Bu Giron, president of Congress, finds that the proposed reforms [words indistinct] not the title of the post, but its authority. Bu Giron was one of few new deputies who said yesterday that the proposed reforms are formal rather than substantive.

He said this is what the armed forces told him. He said the responsibilities of public officials are not based on their titles but on their authority. He said that, looking at it this way, perhaps the president is being given a higher post with the title of supreme chief rather than general commander. [as heard]

Congress President Comments

PA180128 San Pedro Sula TIEMPO in Spanish 17 Nov 82 p 5

[Text] National Congress President Jose Efrain Bu Giron said yesterday that the constitutional amendments requested by the defense minister "do not involve a reduction of the powers of the president of the republic with regard to the armed forces. They merely call for a change of titles."

"This proposal," the chamber president said, "in no way undermines the president's powers of decision with regard to the armed forces."

The amendments, which call for changes in the titles given to the president of the republic and to the chief of the armed forces, do not violate either the Constitution or the current laws, Bu Giron said in conclusion.

Further Details

PA180247 San Pedro LA PRENSA in Spanish 17 Nov 82 p 3

[By Douglas Membreno]

[Text] Tegucigalpa -- The high command has requested several constitutional amendments from the National Congress. These amendments range from designating the president of the republic as supreme chief of the armed forces to eliminating the rank of division general.

The deputies heard about these amendments yesterday. The high degree of evolution that the armed forces have reached over the past few years in their organic structure, doctrines and operational concepts was pointed out as grounds for the amendments. According to the document, "the armed forces reform bill amends several constitutional articles related to the Honduran Armed Forces and introduces new concepts, such as supreme chief of the armed forces."

Suazo: Supreme Chief

Following approval of the requested amendments, this new title will be assigned to the president of the republic, Dr Roberto Suazo Cordova. Gen Gustavo Alvaro Martinez, the current chief of the armed forces, will become the commander in chief of these forces. The amendments to the military laws establish other new titles, such as chief of the joint general staff and chief of the general staff.

Out With Paz Garcia:

It has been noted that among the broad amendments proposed there is one calling for the elimination of the rank of division general, which in Honduras is used only by former President Policarpo Paz Garcia. The document calling for the elimination of this military category -- which has led to speculation regarding Paz Garcia's future within the armed forces -- states that the rank of division general will be eliminated, leaving only the rank of brigade general.

In addition, other high ranks would be created, such as brigadier general, lieutenant general and vice admiral (for the navy).

GOVERNMENT REITERATES NEUTRALITY ON CONFLICTS

PA171558 Tegucigalpa Domestic Service in Spanish 1130 GMT 17 Nov 82

[News communique issued by the International Information Office of the government -- date not given]

[Text] The International Information Office of the Honduran Government once again states in the face of the campaign to involve the country in international conflicts:

1. The Honduran Government firmly maintains and will maintain its neutral position regarding situations of conflict of any kind experienced by other states and its respect for the principle of nonintervention in relations with other countries.

2. It will rigorously intensify implementation of control in the national territory so the law will be strictly applied to all those foreigners who place the country's neutrality in doubt, who with their actions compromise the principle of nonintervention, or who abuse the hospitality of the Honduran Government and people.

3. Any report that a war with Nicaragua is imminent is false. Honduras would not lend its territory to any aggression against other countries, because this would be incompatible with the peaceful spirit of the Hondurans and their institutions. However, it must be explained that the government will use all its resources in legitimate defense of its sovereignty. We condemn and we are not willing to permit violence or actions aimed at destabilizing governments. Honduras has always been distinguished for acting through peaceful and civilized means to resolve conflicts.

4. It condemns the provocations, harassments and armed attacks that -- through terrorist actions -- extreme leftist groups carry out against the country for the essential purpose of destabilizing the government and producing violence. It also understands that the country's democratic regime is cause for irritation to international totalitarianism, which increasingly seeks to extend itself with the cooperation of naive people who lend themselves to this kind of campaign.

Finally, we express hope that the recent meeting of the Honduran foreign secretary with high-ranking Nicaraguan authorities, and Honduras' joint effort with other democracies, will help stabilize peace in Central America and eliminate tensions of all kinds in the region.

NICARAGUA

HUMBERTO ORTEGA ADDRESSES NEWSMEN 18 NOVEMBER

PA180555 Managua Domestic Service in Spanish 0245 GMT 18 Nov 82

[Address by Defense Minister Humberto Ortega Saavedra to "local and foreign newsmen" -- place not given -- live or recorded]

[Text] [Monitored in progress] ...the end of this year. [Words indistinct] that in addition to an increase in the activity of the counterrevolutionary forces on the border supported by the Honduran Government and Army, other threatening and arrogant activities are underway. When it was reported that the Hawk View military maneuver was suspended, those were only lies and efforts to disguise a maneuver that we know very well has not been suspended by the United States. On the contrary, everything seems to indicate that, according to the movements they are making in this regard, this maneuver will be carried out in December after Mr Reagan's visit to our sister nation Costa Rica.

In addition to this type of military maneuver, which gives more strength to armed counterrevolutionary activities and the warmongering positions of the reactionary governments and reactionary armed forces of the area, we know they are involved in other movements and maneuvers under the pretext of our alleged arms buildup. This is very dangerous. [Words indistinct] instead of contributing, as all the responsible governments of Latin America want, to the search for mature and peaceful solutions, they want to exacerbate the situation of instability and the climate of war being experienced in the region, thus creating a harmful situation in which only our Latin American peoples and nations would be hurt. This is what war is all about.

We might begin with a conflict or a specific situation, but nobody knows how or where it would end. The only thing we know is that it would be very unlikely to end in the United States. For this reason I say that those who would directly suffer would be the Central American peoples [words indistinct] the warmongering solution that the warmongering groups want to impose on the situation of conflict that our region is experiencing.

For the tranquillity of these gentlemen who are promoting a consensus to justify their measures or the creation of conflicts to provoke a situation of war that couldn't be stopped, and of those who want to seek this type of situation, we can tell them, without any fear, that our Sandinist Peoples Army [EPS] is supported by and will be supported by the Nicaraguan people, the humble people, made up of workers, peasants, intellectuals and students. The EPS is backed by the unity of the entire nation, organized in a defense based on the decision to defend the fatherland.

This is our strategy and doctrine of defense. We do not base our defensive capacity on technology. Our defensive capacity to face a foreign aggression rests on the decision of the Nicaraguan people to defend our fatherland, our sovereignty, our self-determination and the popular gains that we have won and that we have been defending since the triumph of our Sandinist people's revolution.

Regarding the military aspect, we can say that we are an army basically made up of ground troops. [Words indistinct] homeland, soil and territory and with the fighting experience we've acquired in more than 100 years of confrontations against the U.S. intervention, we've developed and learned the military art. We've organized our people and our tactics around these ground troops in order to defend our country in the event of an aggression.

It is being said that they are worried about our planes. If U.S. intelligence uses its intelligence it can easily learn what type of planes we have. [Words indistinct] where they are. They can specifically learn what kind of planes they are and what they look like -- they are like the planes that Honduras has or that any other Central American army can have.

It has been said that Nicaragua in the next weeks or months is about to acquire MiGs, Mirages, the Israeli-made Kfirs or who knows what kind of modern planes. However, we can responsibly say that the EPS, at this time, weeks or months as these gentlemen say, is not contemplating in its plans, programs and [word indistinct] to purchase [word indistinct] of that kind.

We continue to strengthen the military defense of the revolution supported by the people's decision to defend their revolution. We also continue to strengthen the organization of the military art and science -- all the methods, tactics and operations that stem from the activities of ground troops. This is the reality. We can't hide this because it would be foolish. Enemy intelligence is perfectly aware of this situation.

However, we wanted to point to this fact because these rumors and campaigns are the ones that these warmongering groups want to use in these moments, these weeks and at this juncture to justify different measures they have planned to carry out, because they always try to find support among the sectors of power, the political sectors and the public, particularly of the United States.

I believe that we must also take advantage of this meeting with local and foreign journalists to note that amid this situation [words indistinct] a result of the continued U.S. policy of force and arrogance, our government continues to support the Mexican-Venezuelan proposal, about which we all know. It was regarding this proposal that we affirmed or reaffirmed our will for peace and dialogue, to seek solutions to the common problems of this area's countries in the present situation.

These reactionary persons of the area [words indistinct] the most reactionary groups of the United States ignore proposals such as the direct dialogue without conditions that the Salvadoran armed movement and the Revolutionary Democratic Front suggested recently. These specific proposals for a direct dialogue without conditions made by the Salvadoran patriots have been rejected by these sectors.

When we say that these political positions are being upheld and that positions such as invoking the Inter-American Reciprocal Assistance Treaty [TIAR] are being maintained, we say that we hope that with this the [words indistinct] of the OAS will be able to get all the mature, responsible and progressive governments to make the TIAR serve for what it should serve -- such as the attack on the Malvinas. In other words, it should serve in times of attacks against our Latin American nations and not for what the United States wants it to serve: to stab our own Latin American brothers and countries. On the contrary, responsible governments such as those of Mexico, Venezuela and other Latin American countries do not maintain the haughty, arrogant and dangerous position of the United States.

Regarding the activities of provocation carried out by armed counterrevolutionary bands from Honduran territory supported by the most reactionary sectors of the Honduran Government and Army, we must note that the [words indistinct] massacre was carried out by the [word indistinct] counterrevolution with the advantage of a border that is difficult because of its vastness and topography. [Words indistinct] Nicaraguan citizens, peasants, [word indistinct], technicians and national institutions in the border region.

The armed counterrevolutionary forces supported by the Honduran Army in Honduran territory are devoted, in a true provocation supported by Honduran Army sectors, to killing peasants and farm workers who are humble residents of that area because the counterrevolutionaries can't successfully confront the armed defense that the EPS has been gradually strengthening in the border towns with border troops and self-defense committees.

We describe this as a true provocation because there is no doubt that these crimes irritate our people and army. We are not lacking the desire to give a harsh blow to the counterrevolutionary bases in Honduran territory.

However, once again we are responsibly calling for a different solution. It is indisputable, however, that this provocation is intended to create some incident or conflict that might justify the participation of higher forces in an attack against our country.

Now I would like to refer briefly to some of the incidents noted on this chart, marked in blue: On 14 November, a patrol composed of six companeros of the EPS' Sandinist people's militias discovered a group of counterrevolutionaries in the area of (Cerro Penascal), 3 km northwest of San Fernando. Shots were exchanged and the counter-revolutionaries escaped toward Honduras, leaving behind them two [word indistinct] of U.S.-made M-60 machineguns, with 350 cartridges each; C-4 plastic explosives, also made in the United States; some dynamite; Claymore mines; (?many blankets); and some medicines.

On 15 November, that is, 2 days ago, a group of counterrevolutionaries who had come from Honduras wearing olive-green uniforms and armed with Fal's, Galils and M-17's entered an area known as La Ceiba, 14 km east of Jalapa. There they killed the following peasants who worked in the area: (Isidro Mejia), 37; (Isidro's) son, (Celso Mejia), 16; (Mauricio Mejia), 40, his brother; (Mateo CAlderon), 25, secretary of the (Jose Bernardo Blandon) agricultural cooperative. All these men were natives of La Ceiba. The counterrevolutionaries also kidnapped a peasant named (Sixto Gonzalez) [words indistinct]. This is a clear example of what I was saying: The counter-revolutionaries are attacking unarmed residents and Nicaraguan workers in the area with impunity.

Yesterday, 16 November, armed counterrevolutionary forces from Honduras attacked a position of the EPS border guards. The attackers used 81-mm mortar fire and heavy machineguns in the area known as Los Planes, 10 km southwest of Jalapa. The fighting ended at 1700. No casualties were reported. Because of the support that they receive from Honduras, these elements used weapons of a caliber that would not be easy to move around were it not for the support that they obtain from the Honduran authorities.

Here we have another case, which occurred on 16 November. A band of counterrevolutionaries armed with rifles kidnapped three companeros, members of the (Ramon Rasvale) agricultural cooperative. They took these people toward (Sencaleca). The companeros were found today, 17 November. Their bodies, with their hands tied, were found in the area of Los Ranchos, southwest of Ciudad Antigua, Nueva Segovia Department. These three peasants who were kidnapped yesterday, members of an agricultural cooperative that operates near the border, were found today. They had been hanged with their hands tied.

We wanted to take advantage of the presence of foreign newsmen here to denounce these provocative elements. These elements represent provocations. They want our disciplined EPS forces to get involved in some incident. They want them to become indignant over this cowardly, criminal situation, in order to justify the expansion of the area's military problems.

TANA COMMUNIQUE CONDEMNS UPCOMING REAGAN TOUR

PA180334 Managua Radio Sandino Network in Spanish 1200 GMT 17 Nov 82

[Text] In a communique issued yesterday, the Anti-imperialist Tribunal of Our America, TANA, charged that the U.S. President's tour of Latin America is aimed at strengthening imperialism's plans of domination in the region.

The statement, issued with copies to the United Nations, the U.S. Senate, the U.S. House of Representatives and the international media, repudiates and categorically condemns Reagan's visit to nations that are facing a dramatic economic situation.

In conclusion, TANA maintained that the goal of these visits to Brazil, Colombia and Costa Rica -- with the alleged excuse of analyzing the economic situation and the problems of the inter-American system in the region -- is also to weaken Latin American unity and attract these nations to the U.S. reactionary platform.

PPSC SECRETARY GENERAL CLOSES SECOND CONGRESS

PA160458 Managua Radio Sandino Network in Spanish 1200 GMT 15 Nov 82

[Text] Mauricio Diaz Davila, secretary general of the Peoples Social Christian Party [PPSC], said yesterday that the policy of national unity is the domestic expression of the international peace that is being promoted by the Sandinist people's revolution.

Diaz Davila, who closed the PPSC's second congress, praised Nicaragua's international victories, which were crowned by our recent election to the UN Security Council, and stressed the responsibility of all Christians in defending peace.

He cited Catholic thinker Jacques Maritain, who said that to be absent from history is to seek death. He noted that the enduring characteristic of Christian thought is the prevalence of its postulates of love and peace.

This, he added, implies specific responsibilities at each moment in history. Diaz Davila stressed the importance of the proposals presented by the Patriotic Front for the Revolution [FPR] to institutionalize the revolution and discussed the dialogue with the Ramiro Sacasa Coordinating Board in the following terms:

[Begin recording] The FPR has already announced its determination to advance the process of institutionalizing the Sandinist peoples revolution through discussion of the law on political parties, the electoral law, the law on media and the law on foreign investments. Their political responsibility must cause the parties that comprise the Ramiro Sacasa Coordinating Board to ponder what their attitude should be toward the revolution's institutionalization. They must analyze their responsibility as Nicaraguans and their duties to their rank and file. They are evading their responsibilities by excluding themselves.

Their policy of intransigent criticism is somewhat lazy. To dodge commitments is gravely irresponsible, in view of Nicaragua's interest and the view of the country's majority. To take advantage of economic and political crises, regardless of the social cost, reflects a stupid attitude, particularly when one considers that the escalation of military conflicts is [words indistinct] of most dogmatic tendencies.

Christians, regardless of the church to which they belong -- and those like us in the PPSC, who profess no religious belief but who base our political action on Christian ethical and social principles -- have a special responsibility in building peace. We have the responsibility of being the promoters of the policy of reason. [end recording]

PSC PRESIDENT CONDEMNS PARTIES BILL DELAY

PA171500 Panama City ACAN in Spanish 1240 GMT 16 Nov 82

[Text] Managua, 16 Nov (ACAN-EFE) -- Social Christian Party (PSC) President Adan Fletes has declared that "the slow democratization process underway in Nicaragua also delays efforts to avoid military polarizations." The opposition leader was responding to what he called the FSLN's delay in approving the political parties bill, tabled since 1980 and still not certain to be approved. State Council President Carlos Nunez has already announced that prior to debate on the draft bill, a seminar must be held -- which could last approximately 2 months -- for a broad discussion of the issue.

Fletes said the Social Christians expect the bill to be approved before 4 December, the end of the state Council's regular session. "Whenever they (referring to the Sandinists) want to get a bill out, they approve it without delay. Now, I do not know what could be so important about that seminar, when a draft bill presented over 2 years ago deserves more attention," the opposition leader asserted.

Besides, the PSC leader said, "there cannot be a democratic law of political parties" without a free debate and ample information for the people. To do this it is necessary to lift the censorship imposed on the daily LA PRENSA and the transmission ban on 20 independent radio newscasts. Fletes added that freedom of expression has to do with the debates in the State Council and that the Social Christians believe the censorship imposed on LA PRENSA's parliamentary reports "is a disadvantage to the democratic sectors."

CASTRO, ANDROPOV DISCUSS BILATERAL COOPERATION

PA171445 Havanna International Service in Spanish 1800 GMT 16 Nov 82

[Text] CPSU General Secretary Yuriy Andropov received Fidel Castro, first secretary of the Communist Party of Cuba and president of the Councils of State and Ministers, today.

Andropov expressed appreciation for the condolences which Castro conveyed to him on behalf of the Cuban communists and people.

The top leaders of the Communist Parties of the USSR and Cuba discussed the development of bilateral cooperation and important topics of the present world situation. They expressed their decision to strengthen the friendship of the Soviet and Cuban peoples and to jointly continue fighting for the consolidation of peace and the solution of the serious problems of nations for the sake of their well-being.

Castro had previously met with the presidents of Angola, Ethiopia, Congo, Mozambique, Democratic Yemen and also with a top-level delegation of the Nicaraguan Junta of the Government of National Reconstruction. He met separately with Indian chief of state Indira Ghandi; Hafiz al-Asad, Ba'th party secretary general and Syrian president; Greek Prime Minister Andre Papendreou; and SWAPO President Sam Nujoma. They all attended the funeral of top Soviet leader Leonid Brezhnev held in Moscow on Monday.

Delegation Returns From Moscow

FL180150 Havana Domestic Television Service in Spanish 0100 GMT 18 Nov 82

[Text] Commander in Chief Fidel Castro, first secretary of the Communist Party of Cuba, Central Committee and president of the Council of State and the government, returned from Moscow this afternoon. In Moscow, Fidel attended the funeral services of Leonid Ilich Brezhnev, general secretary of the CPSU and chairman of the Presidium of the USSR Supreme Soviet.

The rest of the members of the Cuban delegation returned with Fidel: Commander of the Revolution Ramiro Valdes and Carlos Rafael Rodriguez, both members of the Politburo and vice presidents of the Council of State, and alternate Politburo member Jesus Montane Oropesa.

Army Gen Raul Castro, second secretary of the party Central Committee, and other members of the Polibturo, Secretariat and Central Committee, met Fidel on arrival at the Jose Marti International Airport.

Also arriving on the same aircraft were Jose A. Naranjo and Jose R. Miyar, members of the Central Committee, and Antonio Nunez Jimenez, alternate member of the Central Committee, who accompanied our delegation during the funeral services for Comrade Brezhnev.

PEREZ HERRERO ENDS 2-WEEK VISIT TO NICARAGUA

FL152159 Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 2145 GMT 15 Nov 82

[Text] Antonio Perez Herrero, alternate member of the Communist Party of Cuba Politburo, today ended a visit to Nicaragua at the invitation of the FSLN. During his 2-week stay in Nicaragua, Perez Herrero conducted a tour of various departments in that country, and held talks with Cuban internationalist builders, physicians, teachers and other workers, who reiterated their decision to fulfill all tasks assigned to them.

Perez Herrero, who is also a member of our party's Central Committee Secretariat, observed the reconstruction work of a bridge in the northern city of Chinandega which is being carried out by members of the Celia Sanchez Manduley construction brigade and Nicaraguan workers. Perez Herrero also chatted with Cuban technicians assisting Nicaraguans working on a prefabricated housing plant.

Perez Herrero toured the Mataglapa-El Tuma segment of a road more than 200 kms long, the first section of which was built by Cuban internationalist workers over a 2-year period of hard work. In his tour of Nicaragua's interior, Perez Herrero expressed interest in the activities of Cuban physicians and teachers in the cities of Esteli, Matagalpa, Granada and Masaya.

The Cuban leader also held several rounds of talks with Carlos Nunez Tellez, member of the FSLN National Commander directorate, who bade farewell to him today at the conclusion of Perez Herrero's visit to Nicaragua. The Cuban delegation led by Perez Herrero attended the ceremony held in Matagalpa in memory of Nicaragua's national hero, Carlos Fonseca Amador.

TEACHERS ARRIVE IN ANGOLA ON 18-MONTH TOUR

FL171635 Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 1502 GMT 17 Nov 82

[Text] The first 53 members of the fourth contingent of the Ernesto Che Guevara internationalist teachers detachment have arrived in Luanda, Angola. The members of the third contingent presented the relief team with the flag which symbolizes the guerrilla record of the three preceding detachments, an outstanding example to educators.

A member of the group read the pledge to continue the heroic tradition of the three preceding detachments and promised to do their best as teachers or, should it be necessary, as combatants together with the Angolan people to face any attempted imperialist aggression.

Afterwards, they presented the flag to the directorate of the UJC [Union of Young Communists] in Angola which will symbolically keep it under its custody during the 18-month tour in the fraternal African country.

AGRICULTURAL COOPERATION TALKS HELD IN ALGIERS

FL171230 Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 1200 GMT 17 Nov 82

[Text] Algiers — Arnaldo Milian, member of the Politburo and Cuba's agriculture minister, has held talks with Salim Saadi, Algeria's agriculture minister. The two leaders discussed prospects for bilateral cooperation in that sector, profitting from each country's experience.

SOVIET, OTHER CEMA LEGAL DELEGATIONS ARRIVE

FL151935 Havana Domestic Television Service in Spanish 1800 GMT 15 Nov 82

[Text] (D. Kudryavtsev), member of the CEMA Secretariat, and (N.A. Osetrov), head of the Soviet delegation to the 21st meeting of the CEMA conference for legal affairs, arrived in Havana this morning. Justice Minister Hector Garcia and Miguel Reyes Salia, chief arbiter of the National State Arbitration Organ, were at the Jose Marti International Airport to welcome them.

The delegations from Romania, Bulgaria, Poland and Mongolia also arrived this morning to participate in the meeting, the first legal meeting held by the CEMA in our country.

CARICOM SUMMIT OPENS IN OCHO RIOS 16 NOV

Kurleigh King Opens Conference

FL170014 Bridgetown CANA in English 2355 GMT 16 Nov 82

[By Trevor Simpson]

[Text] Ocho Rios, Jamaica, Nov 16, CANA -- Caribbean Community (Caricom) heads of government meeting here were today urged to consider setting up a new regional ministerial forum to speed up work on resolving the more large-scale economic problems facing the 12-nation grouping.

The call came from Caricom Secretary-General Dr Kurleigh King at the official opening of the third regional heads of government summit, expected to be dominated by economic issues.

The economic problems facing the grouping of English-speaking states, he said, were numerous and serious and required a tighter integration of financial and economic policies.

The escalating regional food import bill had reached 700 million dollars (U.S.) annually, output in major commodities was stagnating, and foreign exchange earnings from exports falling sharply, Dr King said.

"What we need is a minister body specially constituted to deal with the strategic and tactical economic survival issues on which critical decisions have to be taken now by all our states," Dr King told the heads, their foreign ministers and officials in the posh American Hotel ball room here.

He said the forum need not be permament. It could be an ad hoc committee in the first instance, supported by working groups of experts in the major areas of concern reporting back to the heads within some specified time frame.

Dr King called, too, for some new mechanism to replace the Caricom Multilateral Clearing Facility (CMCF), a credit system used by member countries to facilitate trade among themselves.

Said Dr King: "This facility was not designed to withstand the pressure of the persistent and relentlessly intensifying balance of payments' problems suffered by most of the member states, and signs of cracking under the strain were recently evident.

"A new mechanism is needed to support or supplement it, otherwise intra-regional trade and the manufacturing activity which is largely sustained by it will decline and disappear with dreadful consequences for our already critical employment situation.

The facility requires member states to settle in two half-yearly instalments the debts accumulated in the trading process. But recently Guyana, which is facing a foreign exchange crisis, defaulted on its January and mid-year payments, triggering suspension of its credit by Barbados. The decision was, however, reversed.

Seaga Address

FL171555 Bridgetown CANA in English 1350 GMT 17 Nov 82

[By Paget Defreitas]

[Text] Ocho Rios, Jamaica, Nov 17, CANA -- Jamaican Prime Minister Edward Seaga has argued that political and economic problems in the western hemisphere are putting pressure on the countries of the region to end the "isolationist tradition" between English and Spanish-speaking states.

Seaga, speaking here at the opening of the third Caribbean Community (Caricom) heads of government conference, said that rivalry between the two major power blocs was now part of the concern of the former British colonies in the Caribbean island chain.

"We cannot walk away from the problems of the region as if we occupy only a room in the house, hoping that what happens next door will not come hammering through the walls," Seaga told the conference.

"The isolationist traditional grouping of English and Spanish-speaking clubs is melting in the crucible of common interests and common problems, and as much as distinctions may still persist in some perceptions, the outer world regards the region geographically as one pot, particularly when it is boiling over, and far-reaching decisions are being made which involve us all, whether we are involved or not," he added.

The changes meant that the heads of government would have to look at "the Caricom system with inspired eyes and committee sensitivity, working together both to consolidate and expand it," the Jamaica prime minister said.

The Caricom summit opened yesterday and runs to Thursday.

Seaga, during the visit here in July of the Barbados prime minister, Tom Adams, had told journalists that the 12-nation community of former British colonies would need to assess itself in relation to the rest of the area.

The prime minister said yesterday that "fundamental evaluations" had to be undertaken, though he indicated that all this could not be done at this meeting.

Seaga also warned the region that it would miss out on economic growth if it did not give priority to technological development at this stage.

Said he: "The micro-chip and bio-engineering are dramatically changing our world and we face the knowledge that in the year 2000 the Caricom region will comprise between six and seven million people divided among 16 or 17 sovereign independent states.

"Yet if we do not clearly contrive to do so, we may not by then master the elements of science and technology which would make us comfortable in the 21st century or reduce unemployment to morally acceptable levels."

Seaga stressed the importance of the region to up-hold human rights and to change governments through elections.

Second Day of Sessions

FL171731 Bridgetown CANA in English 1643 GMT 17 Nov 82

[By Trevor Simpson, CANA acting chief editor]

[Text] Ocho Rios, Jamaica, Nov 17, CANA -- Caribbean Community (Caricom) heads of government, meeting in this north coast resort, went into day two of their three-day summit this morning, still on their first major agenda item -- regional peace and security, conference sources said.

With Grenada withdrawing certain earlier stated reservations, the heads, in a plenary session after yesterday's official opening of the first Caricom summit in seven years, approved some components of a proposed regional security strategy, the sources said.

Included were the concept of common legislation to outlaw the use of mercenaries, establishment of a working party to study areas of mutual security assistance, and cooperation in having the Caribbean declared a zone of peace.

The leaders expressed firm support for Belize and Guyana in their territorial disputes with Guatemala and Venezuela respectively.

But the sources said that in the 90 minutes of private caucusing which ended last night, the heads have not yet reached consensus on a strategy for dealing with the disputes in the context of an overall regional security scheme.

While the leaders caucus in the Americana Hotel suite of chairman, Jamaica Prime Minister Edward Seaga, trade, financial and economic matters have been referred to ministerial committees that include central bankers and other advisers.

Before the heads first went into caucus late yesterday, there was a Caricom Secretariat presentation on the global economy and its impact on the Caribbean and the leaders heard an address by commonwealth [words indistinct] foreign minister focussed on the serious financial predicament still gripping the world. Predicting it would worsen, he urged Caricom states to initiate protective measures through joint actions, the sources said.

At the level of the economic and general purposes committee, Grenada put up a paper recommending joint Caricom bulk-buying of foodstuff and other imports to cushion rising costs.

Conference sources said discussions so far have been frank, free and open, with some leaders showing a determination not to be side-tracked from the main thrust of the summit.

Barbados Prime Minister Tom Adams yesterday expressed fears that his proposed Caricom human rights initiative could fall victim to a full agenda with not sufficient time to complete it.

Adams in fact indicated that the more controversial issues had been placed in the latter part of the agenda and may not be dealt with before tomorrow, and "I think that may be a little late."

These include the proposed restructuring of the University of the West Indies (UWI), rationalising regional air transportation and the human rights question.

Barbados is pressing to have a human rights clause inserted into the nine year old treaty governing the operation of Caricom.

The Barbados amendment would bind the 12 member states -- two of which, Grenada and Guyana, have been accused of gross human rights violations -- to "the principal liberty and the protection of the fundamental rights and freedoms of the individual, through adherence to the principles of the rule of law and the practice of free, fair and regular elections."

Adoption of the motion would require a unanimous decision by the heads.

Disagreement on Guyana Support

FL180156 Bridgetown CANA in English 0150 GMT 18 Nov 82

[By Trevor Simpson]

[Text] Ocho Rios, Nov 17, CANA -- Guyana's President Forbes Burnham failed to turn up, scuttling plans for today's official photographing of Caribbean Community (Caricom) leaders now meeting here, well placed sources said tonight.

The incident fueled reports here of wrangling between Mr Burnham and a few of his Caricom colleagues over how strong should be the language used in the conference declaration of support for Guyana in its ongoing territorial dispute with neighbouring Venezuela.

Conference sources said the other 11 Caricom leaders, plus Bahamas Prime Minister Lynden Pindling, had assembled in the Americana Hotel lobby at the appointed time, but the photo session was called off after the Guyana president failed to turn-up. Official Jamaica Information Service (JIS) photographers were then told the session would be rescheduled an hour later but up to tonight, the pictures had not been taken.

Burnham is reportedly meeting some resistance from at least two of his collegues for a strong condemnation of Venezuela which, he maintains, is claiming nearly 70 percent of Guyana's 830,000 square miles.

The dissenting countries are arguing that Venezuela is no longer claiming five eights of Guyana and that it was willing to resolve the issue by negotiations under the terms of a 1966 Geneva agreement setting out the settlement options, the sources said.

Guyana is one of two Caricom countries threatened by territorial disputes. The other is Belize, a former British colony in Central America, which is being claimed by its Spanish speaking neighbour Guatemala. Belize's Prime Minister George Price, who is also at the summit here, has already been assured of firm support from the other 11 member states.

President Burnham alluded to both disputes at the official opening of the summit yesterday, and called for regional support. "How many of us realise that Belize stands to lose the whole of Belize and Guyana stands to lose 67 percent of its geographical territory right now?" The Guyanese leader asked. "If we are a region, we must think of the geographical wholeness of the region, without (which)... the size of this region would be 16,000 square miles," he declared.

The failure of the leaders to agree on the final wording of the conference declaration today forced postponement of caucus discussion on the subject of regional peace and security, conference sources said.

Hugh Shearer Reports on Summit

FL181130 Kingston Domestic Service in English 1100 GMT 18 Nov 82

[Text] Caribbean heads of government who are meeting in Ocho Rios for the Caricom heads of government meeting spent most of yesterday and last night in caucus on the human rights aspect of the agenda.

Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Foreign Affairs Hugh Shearer said yesterday afternoon at the press briefing that frankness and tolerance were the hallmarks of the discussions. Mr Shearer said that several amendments had been proposed including the widely publicized one by Barbados.

Other matters still to be dealt with include the matter of peace and security and regional transports. The deputy prime minister said that the economic and general matters committee of the meeting had completed its work and is expected to submit a report which will include trade and payments, joint efforts in production, development and distribution of energy in the region, training opportunities and the University of the West Indies.

BOLIVIA

WORKERS REJECT GOVERNMENT SALARY PROPOSAL

PY170156 La Paz Cadena Panamericana in Spanish 1130 GMT 16 Nov 82

[Excerpts] Workers are inclined to request a review of the economic measures the Siles Zuazo adminsitration enacted on 6 November 1982. Workers' representatives who attended the special national meeting called for by the Bolivian Labor Federation, COB, have requested an improved salary policy. The meeting started yesterday and an official report on the resolutions approved is expected to be issued in the next few hours.

Last night, workers announced their rejection of the salary readjustment proposed by the government and they set 1 December as the deadline for the government to raise wrokers' salaries. It was also announced that negotiations aimed at solving this problem are already under way.

Workers' leader Juan Lechin Oquendo could only attend the opening session because of poor health.

DOMINICAN REPUBLIC

PRESIDENT DISMISSES INTERIOR MINISTER

PA172015 Buenos Aires LATIN in Spanish 1951 GMT 17 Nov 82

[Text] Santo Domingo, 17 Nov (LATIN-REUTER) -- A government statement today reported that Dominican President Salvador Jorge Blanco dismissed Interior Minister Guillermo Rivera without explanation. This was the first cabinet change since Blanco became president 3 months ago. The statement added that Deputy Interior Minister Juan Jose Encarnacion was also dismissed.

According to informed sources, the two officials were dismissed after a complaint from the armed forces regarding the alleged unrestricted issue of weapons permits to civilians, particularly to members of the ruling Dominican Revolutionary Party.

Rivera refused to discuss the reasons for his removal with reporters while Encarnacion said that he didn't know why he had been dismissed.

Jose Ares Maldonado, who is said to have close ties with President Blanco, was appointed temporary interior minister.

PERU

SOCIAL SECURITY WORKERS END 10-DAY STRIKE

PY180102 Buenos Aires LATIN in Spanish 1942 GMT 17 Nov 82

[Text] Lima, 17 Nov (LATIN-REUTER) -- Approximately 30,000 social security workers today ended a strike they called 10 days ago to seek wage increases, Social Security officials have reported. The union, which demanded a monthly increase of 150,000 soles, reached an agreement with its employer, the terms of which will be disclosed as soon as the appropriate document is signed, the sources said.

Meanwhile, health workers, employees and professors of universities continue to be on strike to demand wage increases.